At least five dead d as another storm system hits the Midwest. NEWS, PAGE 4

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Members of kidnapped missionary group have been freed. NEWS, PAGE 4

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Mostly sunny and mild; high of 55. SPORTS, PAGE 6



COURANT.COM **VOLUME CLXXXV** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2021

# Schools, police respond to TikTok trend

Nationwide trend threatens violence, raises safety concerns

By Seamus McAvoy Hartford Courant

Connecticut school districts and law enforcement agencies are once again moving to investigate and respond to a flurry of online violent threats made against schools

across the country, which officials say may have originated as a TikTok challenge to get classes canceled Friday.

None of the threats has been found to be specific or credible against schools within the state, according to the Connecticut Intelligence Center, which officials said has been investigating the threats for several days. Still, several districts were prompted Thursday to issue statements acknowledging the trend and to mollify continued concerns over student safety.

"It appeared to start out as an attempt for kids to get out of school, almost create a skip day, and morphed into the fear of threats of school violence," said Brian Foley, assistant commissioner of the state Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection.

Police did not describe the TikTok trend in detail. In an email to families, West Hartford Public Schools officials described a widely shared post that threatened school safety on Dec. 17 "for every school in the USA, even elementary."

Officials from several school districts, including Bristol, Hartford and New Britain, issued statements acknowledging the

Some schools, including those in Farmington, Hamden and Wallingford, will have an increased security or police presence on

**Turn to Threat,** Page 2

## **CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK**

# Connecticut eclipses 9,000 COVID-19 deaths



 $Vernon\,resident\,Yoga\,Evange lista, left, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,resident\,Yoga\,Evange lista, left, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,resident\,Yoga\,Evange lista, left, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,resident\,Yoga\,Evange lista, left, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,resident\,Yoga\,Evange lista, left, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,Yoga\,Evange lista, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,while\,receiving\,a\,COVID-19\,vaccine\,boost\,from\,paramedic\,Vernon\,Yoga\,Evange lista, holds\,her\,grand daughter's\,hand\,While\,Parameter lista, holdsher\,grand daughter's\,hand\,While\,Parameter lista, holdsher\,grand daughter's\,hand\,While\,Parameter lista, holdsher\,grand daughter's\,hand\,While\,$ firefighter and EMT Chris Prue during a vaccination clinic run by the town of Vernon. MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

# Nearly entire state is in 'red alert' category for virus

**By Alex Putterman** Hartford Courant

Connecticut has passed 9,000 deaths related to COVID-19, the latest grim milestone in a pandemic that has now stretched nearly two years.

The state on Thursday reported 56 additional coronavirus-linked deaths since last since April — bringing its total to 9,002.

Connecticut has now recorded more deaths during the current pandemic than the state experienced during the famous flu pandemic of 1918-19, when about 8,500 residents died, according to the Connecticut Historical Society.

As COVID-19 cases and hospitaliza-

week — the most in a seven-day period tions have surged in Connecticut over recent weeks, the number of deaths has risen slightly, while remaining far below the levels recorded last winter, when the state lost more than 200 people a week for

several months. Experts say the fact deaths have not

Turn to Deaths. Page 3



Alejandro Brown receives a dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on Thursday in Miami. JOE RAEDLE/GETTY

# **Advisers** for CDC downgrade J&J shot

Panel: Pfizer, Moderna doses don't have same risk of rare blood clots

By Lauran Neergaard and Mike Stobbe Associated Press

Most Americans should be given the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines instead of the Johnson & Johnson shot that can cause rare but serious blood clots, U.S. health advisers recommended Thursday.

The strange clotting problem has caused nine confirmed deaths after J&J vaccinations while the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines don't come with that risk and also appear more effective, advisers to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

It's an unusual move and the CDC's director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, must decide whether to accept the panel's advice. Until now the U.S. has treated

Turn to Vaccine. Page 3

# **INSIDE**

# State's digital vaccination card is now available

A digital COVID-19 vaccination card now available from the state Department of Public Health will not lead to a mandatory vaccine passport, Gov. Ned Lamont said Thursday. Connecticut, Page 1

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# **EDITH PRAGUE** 1925-2021

# Former state senator, fighter for seniors



Former state Sen. Edith Prague is shown in 2012 with state Rep. Peter Tercyak, a fellow Democrat who served as her campaign manager when she ran for the Senate 18 years earlier. COURANT FILE PHOTO

By Christopher Keating

Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — Former state Sen. Edith Prague, a fiery liberal who was among the most colorful legislators in recent decades, died Thursday. She was 96.

Prague was remembered by her colleagues as a lawmaker and advocate who never gave up during her decadeslong career that included becoming one of the oldest commissioners in state history.

Gov. Ned Lamont described Prague as "the jewel of eastern Connecticut" as her Senate district stretched from her hometown of Columbia to nine surrounding communities.

"She is a legend whose feisty and caring personality will never be forgotten," Lamont said Thursday. "She was as compassionate as she was bold, and through her entire life had an energy that was nothing short of infectious. Edith absolutely left her mark on Connecticut."

In 2013, at age 87, Prague came full circle in a remarkably improbable 20-year jour-

Turn to Prague, Page 3



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# Six from Connecticut aerospace industry indicted

Executives and former manager charged with conspiring to limit workers' advancement and compensation

By Stephen Singer

Hartford Courant

A federal grand jury has indicted five aerospace executives and a former manager on charges of conspiring to limit workers' professional advancement and compensation, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Thurs-

The Bridgeport grand jury accused the six men of participating in a "long-running conspiracy to restrict the hiring and recruiting of employees among their respective companies."

The alleged conspiracy affected thousands of engineers and other skilled workers in the aerospace industry who design, manufacture and service aircraft components for commercial and military purposes, authorities say.

"Our investigation revealed a prolonged and widespread scheme to deprive aerospace workers of the ability to plan their own careers and earn competitive pay," said Assistant Attorney General Jonathan S. Kanter of the U.S. Department of Justice's antitrust division.

According to the one-count felony indictment unsealed, six individuals Mahesh Patel, Harpreet Wasan, Steven Houghtaling and Tom Edwards, all of Connecticut; and Robert Harvey, of South Carolina, and Gary Prus, of Florida conspired with unnamed others to not hire or solicit employees from each other's

The indictments did not identify the companies for whom the defendants worked. Patel worked at jet engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney.

A spokesman for Raytheon Technologies Corp., the parent company of Pratt & Whitney, has previously said Raytheon is "committed to complying with applicable state and federal laws and is cooperating fully with the government's inquiry.'

Edwards is identified on the website of Cyient, an engineering and technology company, as president of its North America operations in East Hartford. He pleaded not guilty. He is referred to in the indictment as president of the North American operations of an unidentified company.

Cyient received a \$500,000 state loan in 2017

A Pratt and Whitney employee gets a closer look at the company's PurePower PW1100G-JM jet engine set to be installed in Airbus A320neo aircraft. FILE

to buy machinery and equipment as it expanded. The balance is \$371,402, according to a spokesman for the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Cyient has not responded

to emails seeking comment. Federal authorities said the indictment is the first in an investigation into "labor market allocation" in the aerospace engineering services industry. Patel.

described as a leader of the

conspiracy, had been previously charged.

He was arrested and appeared before a federal magistrate judge on the charge last week, and was released on a \$100,000 appearance bond. The remaining defendants are expected to appear before federal district courts this

The maximum penalty for a conspiracy to restrain trade is 10 years of imprisonment and a fine of \$1 million.

Two civil lawsuits have been filed against aerospace businesses, accusing them of enforcing an agreement to not hire workers in the industry in an effort to keep down wages.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

# Threat

from Page 1

Friday. No school district had canceled classes in response to the threats as of Thursday evening.

The hoax threats appear to function essentially as a 21st century version of pulling the school fire alarm to get out of an exam, but the potentially deadly risk they pose make them impossible for law enforcement, school officials and parents to ignore.

Investigating the threats "starts to take its toll on everybody in the community," said Kate Dias, president of the Connecticut Education Association, but officials have no choice.

"The consequence of being wrong in these circumstances is overwhelming," Dias said. "You only have to be wrong once for it to be tragic."

Dias pointed out how the suspect in the recent mass shooting at Oxford High School in Michigan reportedly circulated ominous posts online before carrying out the

Other national social media trends have borne out in Connecticut. The "devious licks" challenge, which encouraged petty theft and vandalism of school property, swept Connecticut schools in September, and schools braced for the more violent #Slapateacher challenge a short time later.

Some experts believe these trends, challenges and threats, though varying in severity, are all symptomatic of a student body that is still reeling from the challenges to mental health posed by the return to in-person learning and the continued pandemic.

"We've seen such a sharp rise in the mental health pandemic during this COVID pandemic as well," said Dr. Melissa Santos, division chief of pediatric psychology at Connecticut Children's Hospital and associate professor of pediatrics at UConn.

There was some optimism. Santos said, that a return to the structure and routine

# "The consequence of being wrong in these circumstances is overwhelming. You only have to be wrong once for it to be tragic."

– Kate Dias, president of the Connecticut Education Association

provided by in-person learningwould help students, but it may have simply highlighted just how many were still struggling.

'Sometimes [adolescents] can't put into words the things that are going on for them internally, and they end up expressing it aggressively, more destructively," Santos said.

With some kids lacking the skills or space to express their anxieties, Santos thinks the attention or satisfaction they can receive from participating in a viral social media trend may be an attractive choice for an impressionable part of the population.

Dias, like some other educators, has floated the idea of "release days," essentially the occasional full or half day off from classes to help students — as well as faculty and staff—catch their breath.

"I think there is this revelation that if we don't build in some pressure release valves, that they're going to build up," Dias said. "Returning full-time has been a stressor on kids, and adults. To go from sort of our fractured schedule last year and right back into full-swing, I think it's been hard on some of our students."

For students who do make the unfortunate choice of circulating threats, district officials and law enforcement agencies have been clear about strict consequences.

"And as you saw last week, they take them very seriously, and arrests were made and will be made if there is a hoax threat," Foley said, referring to the several arrests in communities across the state in response to fake threats.

Even students who post threats using anonymous accounts can expect legal consequences. "Connecticut State Police computer crimes unit are very adept at working with social media entities, communication companies like Verizon, communication providers, as well as school districts in following up on these hoax threats," Foley said.

Administrators and police encourage parents to monitor their children's social media presence and encourage safe behaviors. Police recommend using bark.us, a social media and text message monitoring application, and referring to Common Sense Media for more information.

But there's a sense that the task of limiting these trends ultimately falls on the platforms themselves, and there's a strange irony in that the same platform that disallows the use of vulgar language enables posts threatening mass violence to go viral.

Dias is calling on TikTok, and other platforms, to do

"Whatever filter they've applied is not effective at this point," Dias said. "It's clearly not working, because it's three months later and we're still talking about TikTok challenges of violence in schools.

The spate of recent threats have increased anxiety during an already stressful time. In Farmington, administrators this week held a community meeting after some parents kept their children out of school after a threat, found not to be credible, circulated on social media. They also made counselors available to students.

"We're kind of going into this school year with a certain level of anxiety and concern, and every time we have a threat like this that becomes viral and starts to have a presence in our daily thinking, it's a challenge, it's difficulty we

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# **LOTTERY**

Thursday, Dec. 16

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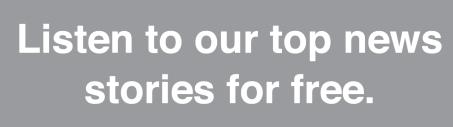
6 6 8 ws: 9 2 0 0 5 ws: 4 WEDNESDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

**PLAY3 NIGHT** 4 8 1**wb**: 4 **PLAY4 NIGHT** 5 5 8 2 ws: 5

8 11 19 25 27 **LUCKY FOR LIFE** 10 23 26 30 39 LB: 7 POWERBALL

19 20 40 42 59 PB: 15 PP: 3 Tonight's est. Lotto jackpot: \$2.6 million Tonight's est. Mega Millions iackpot: \$160 million

Saturday's est. Powerball jackpot: \$353 million



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## **WORLD & NATION**

# Judge rejects settlement shielding Sackler family from opioid claims

**By Geoff Mulvihill** 

Associated Press

NEW YORK - A judgehas rejected OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma's bankruptcy settlement of thousands of lawsuits over the opioid epidemic because of a provision that would protect members of the Sackler family from facing litigation of their own.

The ruling Thursday from U.S. District Judge Colleen McMahon in New York is likely to be appealed by the

company, family members and the thousands of government entities that support the plan.

Purdue sought bank-ruptcy protection in 2019 as it faced thousands of lawsuits claiming the company pushed doctors to prescribe OxyContin, helping spark an opioid crisis that has been linked to more than 500,000 deaths in the U.S. over the past two decades.

Through the bankruptcy court, it worked out a deal with its creditors. Members of the Sackler family would give up ownership of the company, which would transform into a different kind of entity that would still sell opioids — but with profits being used to fight the crisis.

It would also develop new anti-addiction and anti-overdose drugs and provide them at little or no

Sackler family members also would contribute \$4.5 billion in cash and charitaall deal that could be worth \$10 billion, including the value of the new drugs, if they're brought to market. Government entities and businesses agreed to use any money they receive fighting the opioid epidemic.

The deal also calls for millions of company documents, including communications with lawyers, to be made public.

In return, members of the family would get protection from lawsuits over their role in the opioid crisis — both the 860 already filed and any others in the future.

Most state and local governments, Native American tribes, individual opioid victims and others who voted said the plan worked out in the bankruptcy court should be accepted.

But the U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee's office, eight state attorneys general and some other entities have been fighting the deal. They argue that it does not properly hold members of the Sack-

ler family accountable and that it usurps states' ability to try to do so.

A bankruptcy court judge approved the plan over the objections in September. But the opponents appealed to McMahon's court.

The main issue on the appeal was the lawfulness of the measures that would extend legal protections to family members.

The Purdue deal would not protect family members from any criminal charges. But none have been filed.

# **Prague**

from Page 1

ney that saw her hired, fired and then rehired to the same position — as commissioner of the state Department on Aging.

An outspoken liberal Democrat, Prague had been fired as commissioner of the department in 1993 by Gov. Lowell P. Weicker when she refused to cut the agency's budget and merge it with another department.

Prague stepped down as a state senator in 2012 after her doctor warned that campaigning could affect her health, which was fragile following a mild stroke around Christmas 2011. But she said she felt well enough to take the full-time, \$120,000-a-year job as commissioner after lobbying then-Gov. Dannel P. Malloy for the position.

"My doctor did say, 'Don't get yourself into a stressful situation' when I said I was going to run for my seat," Prague said at the time. "Both my doctor and my daughter didn't want me campaigning, running door to door. That was then, and this is now. I'm healthier. I'm drinking [high-calorie] Boost every day, so I'll stay healthy. And I'm looking forward to the job."

The agency was involved in the full spectrum of senior issues, including Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, nursing homes and assisted living.

"If you were to start from scratch and build from the ground up an advocate for senior citizens, you would come up with Edith Prague – or her clone," said Cathy Osten, the Sprague Democrat who won Prague's Senate seat in 2012. "I think it's wonderful, someone as vibrant as Edith in charge of taking care of our seniors. I've known her for probably 20 years, and her reputation among seniors

is stellar." In her job as commis-



On May 9, 2012, retiring Sen. Edith Prague cracks up as colleague Sen. Eric Coleman kiddingly reveals that she is really his mother, while honoring Prague in the Senate chambers on the final day of the legislative session. COURANT FILE PHOTO

sioner, Prague had a different schedule at age 87 that did not include casting votes at 2:30 a.m. with her legislative colleagues after marathon, all-day debates

Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz and others admired Prague's determination.

"During her decades in government, she was a powerful voice for workers walking picket lines into

her 90s," Bysiewicz said. "Her life was incomparable, a consummate public servant, working tirelessly for causes of justice and equity well into her 80s," said U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal. "I was proud to be her partner on

a number of causes — such as stopping impaired driving and advancing elderly health care. She was a model and mentor for me and so many, and I was grateful to count her as a friend."

The story of Prague's winding journey in government service began in the 1980s when she made a name for herself as an advocate for the elderly. Known for her fierce independent streak, Prague caught the attention of Weicker, a fellow maverick also known for having a sharp tongue.

After Prague endorsed Weicker for governor in 1990, he invited her to his famed Applejack Farm in Greenwich and interviewed her as a potential running mate as lieutenant governor.

"Luckily, he chose Eunice Groark, because we would have killed each other," Prague once told the

Soon after Weicker was elected, he named Prague as the commissioner on aging. But in the days of ballooning budget deficits and the creation of the state income tax. Weicker told Prague to consolidate her agency and cut its budget. Prague refused.

When Weicker requested her resignation, she refused that too. So he fired her.

Refusing to be knocked

out of state government, Prague responded to the December 1992 firing by running for the state Senate in September 1994 in a Democratic primary against a four-term incumbent. She won. She then went on to win in November in a three-way race.

Born in Methuen, Massachusetts in 1925, when Calvin Coolidge was president, Prague had the energy that helped her outlast many of her political rivals. She served for years in the Senate as part of an elderly troika that included Sen. George "Doc" Gunther, who died in 2012 at age 92, and Sen. Biagio "Billy" Ciotto, who died in March at age 91.

Prague, whose late husband, Franklin, operated an independent chain of more than 20 shoe stores, conceded that she could have lived comfortably in retirement without a job. But she kept returning to the Capitol in an attempt to help the elderly — either as a member of the House, the Senate, or as a commissioner.

She said that refusing to quit was a trait of her astrological sign, Sagittarius.

"I don't give up," she once said. "When you believe strongly, you can't give up."

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@ courant.com

# **Deaths**

from Page 1

increased as rapidly as other metrics is a sign that vaccination is having an effect in preventing serious illness. According to state numbers, unvaccinated people have been about 20 times as likely to die of COVID-19 as vaccinated people in recent weeks.

After ranking among the states with the highest rates of COVID-19 mortality in the early days of the pandemic, Connecticut now stands 28th nationally in coronavirus deaths per capita.

The United States has recorded 803.093 deaths related to COVID-19. according to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

# Cases and positivity rate

Connecticut reported 2,085 new COVID-19 cases Thursday out of 29,186 tests, for a daily positivity rate of 7.14%. The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 5.68%, up from Wednesday but down from last week.

Connecticut has now averaged 1,615 daily COVID-19 cases over the past week, about even with the seven days prior. Unvaccinated residents have been about five times as likely to test positive in recent weeks as vaccinated residents, according to state numbers.

Connecticut has now recorded 40 cases of the omicron variant, suggesting the new strain is beginning to spread in the state. Still, the delta variant remains dominant in Connecticut, accounting for between 70 and 88% of new cases in the state, according to researchers at the Yale School of Public Health,

As of Thursday, 164 of Connecticut's 169 towns are in the state's "red-alert"

category, meaning they are averaging at least 15 daily COVID-19 cases per 100,000

residents. All eight Connecticut counties — as well as the rest of those in the Northeast region — are currently recording "high" levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

# **Hospitalizations**

As of Tuesday, Connecticut has 710 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, down six from Thursday but more than three times the state's total at the end of

October. According to the state, 75.1% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is even higher when looking specifically at people with severe symp-

# **Vaccinations**

As of Thursday, 86.6% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 73.9% of all residents and 83.2% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the

Additionally, about 35.1% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of firstdose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@ courant.com.

# Vaccine

from Page 1

all three COVID-19 vaccines available to Americans as an equal choice, since large studies found they all offered strong protection and early supplies were limited.

J&J's vaccine initially was welcomed as a single-dose option that could be especially important for hard-toreach groups like homeless people who might not get the needed second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna options.

But the CDC's advisers said Thursday that it was time to recognize a lot has changed since vaccines began rolling out a year ago. More than 200 million Americans are considered fully vaccinated, including about 16 million who got the J&J shot.

New data from unprecedented safety tracking of all those vaccinations persuaded the panel that while the blood clots linked to J&J's vaccine remain very rare, they're still occurring and not just in younger women as originally thought.

In a unanimous vote. the advisers decided the safer Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are preferred. But they said the shot made by J&J's Janssen division still should be available if someone really wants it — or has a severe allergy to the other options.

"I would not recommend the Janssen vaccine to my family members" but some patients may — and should be able to — choose that shot, said CDC adviser Dr. Beth Bell of the University of Washington.

The clotting problems first came up last spring,

with the J&J shot in the U.S. and with a similar vaccine made by AstraZeneca that is used in other countries. Eventually U.S. regulators decided the benefits of J&J's one-and-done vaccine outweighed what was considered a very rare risk — as long as recipients were warned.

European regulators likewise continued to recommend AstraZeneca's two-dose vaccine although, because early reports were mostly in younger women, some countries issued age restrictions.

COVID-19 causes deadly blood clots, too. But the vaccine-linked kind is different, believed to form because of a rogue immune reaction to the J&J and AstraZeneca vaccines because of how they're made. It forms in unusual places, such as veins that drain blood from the brain, and in patients who also develop abnormally low levels of the platelets that form clots. Symptoms of the unusual clots, dubbed "thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome," include severe headaches a week or two after the J&J vaccination - not right away — as well as abdominal pain and nausea.

While it's still very rare, the Food and Drug Administration told health care providers this week that more cases have occurred after J&J vaccinations since the spring. They occur most in women ages 30 to 49 — about once for every 100,000 doses administered, the FDA said.

Overall, the government has confirmed 54 clot cases- 37 in women and 17 in men, and nine deaths that included two men, the CDC's Dr. Isaac See said Thursday.

He said two additional

deaths are suspected.

The CDC decides how vaccines should be used in the U.S., and its advisers called the continuing deaths troubling. In comparing the pros and cons of all the vaccines, the panelists agreed that side effects from the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines weren't as serious - and that supplies now are

plentiful. Nor is J&J still considered a one-and-done vaccine, several advisers noted. The single-dose option didn't prove quite as protective as two doses of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. Plus, with extra-contagious virus mutants now spreading, booster doses now are recommended.

Meanwhile, Penatagon officials said Thursday that the U.S. military services have now begun disciplinary actions and discharges for troops who have refused to

get the mandated coronavirus vaccine, with as many as 20,000 unvaccinated forces at risk of being removed from service.

The Marine Corps said it has discharged 103 Marines so far for refusing the vaccine, and the Army said it has reprimanded more than 2,700 soldiers and will begin discharge proceedings in January. The Air Force said earlier this week that 27 airmen had been discharged for refusing the vaccine order. And the Navy laid out its new discipline procedure this week, and has already fired one sailor from his command job for refusing to be tested while he pursues an exemption.

Military leaders have warned for months that troops would face consequences if they did not follow what is considered to be a lawful order to get the COVID-19 vaccine.

**WWW.COURANT.COM** 

# At least 5 dead in Midwest storms

Many residents in 3 states in dark after widespread outages

**By Julie Bosman** The New York Times

A ferocious storm system that swept across the Midwest left hundreds of thousands of customers without electricity Thursday, with countless houses, barns and buildings damaged and five people dead in Iowa, Kansas and Minnesota.

Less than a week after a string of deadly tornadoes devastated six states, Wednesday night brought weather that was unusual for the Midwest at this time of year: 70-degree temperatures, wildfires, tornadoes and winds that surpassed 75 mph.

"In the middle of Decem-

"In the middle of December, it's obviously extraordinary, unprecedented," said Mike Fowle, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service, noting that the city of Des Moines, Iowa, broke a record by reaching 74 degrees.

Before Wednesday, Fowle said, there had been only five confirmed tornadoes in December in Iowa, dating to 1950. On Wednesday, there were at least five tornadoes across the state.

Storm teams from the weather service were criss-crossing the Midwest on Thursday surveying the damage.

The storm system, which moved into Canada on Thursday, came five days after tornadoes whipped through Kentucky and five other states, killing dozens of people, which might have prompted many people in the Midwest to take a



 $A\,man\,checks\,on\,his\,damaged\,home\,Thursday\,after\,a\,storm\,swept\,through\,Hartland,\\Minnesota.\,\textbf{CHRISTIAN\,MONTERROSA/AP}$ 

cautious approach when faced with storms Wednesday night.

What prompted the unusual December weather events is unclear. The ingredients that give rise to tornadoes include warm, moist air at ground level; cool dry air higher up; and wind shear, which is the change in wind speed or direction. Each of these factors may be affected differently by climate change.

Residents of communities across Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa were still struggling with widespread power outages Thursday night.

Most were in Michigan, with more than 210,000

customers without power, according to PowerOutage. us, which aggregates data from utilities across the country. Another 80,000 experienced outages in Wisconsin, and nearly 18,000 customers were without power in Iowa.

In western Wisconsin, the police department of the city of Stanley wrote on Facebook that there was devastation throughout the community from storms overnight, with roofs of buildings sheared off by winds, streets filled with rubble and power lines downed. As emergency workers and residents worked to clean up Thursday in 24-degree tempera-

tures, a light snow began to fall, with wind gusts of 40 mph predicted.

Deb Chwala, whose

family owns a construction business in Stanley, said both of the company's buildings were "totally flattened." She was home Wednesday night when the storm

She was home Wednesday night when the storm hit and heard terrifying, howling winds, followed by a roaring sound that sounded like a tornado had descended on the town.

When she and her husband surveyed the damage, they were able to retrieve a computer and other belongings, but the buildings were beyond repair. "It looks like a bomb hit," she said. The weather service confirmed Thursday that a tornado had hit north of Neillsville, near Stanley.

Of the five deaths, four occurred on the roads.

In Kansas, Trooper Mike Racy of the Highway Patrol said three people had been killed in two separate car crashes Wednesday, after dust storms had turned driving conditions dangerous.

"Our visibility yesterday was so bad, you could barely see the hood on your vehicle," he said.

In Iowa, one man was killed after a gust of wind overturned his tractor-trailer on a highway.

Another man, a 65-yearold Minnesota resident, died when he stepped outside for a cigarette during a storm and was found a short time later with a head injury, pinned under a fallen 40-foot tree.

The weather service said there had been at least 55 wind gusts of at least 75 mph across the country Wednesday, the highest daily number since 2004.

In the West and Plains regions, dust storms whipped through Colorado and Kansas, and a tornado was spotted in Lincoln, Nebraska. Images circulating on social media showed damage to hangars and small planes at the Santa Fe Regional Airport in New Mexico.

The main air traffic control tower at Kansas City International Airport was temporarily evacuated Wednesday because of the storms.

In Iowa, transportation officials shut down bridges and warned drivers to stay off roads. And in Omaha, Nebraska, meteorologists for the weather service briefly suspended their work as they sheltered from a storm.

The storm system also spawned wildfires and winds of up to 100 mph in Kansas, authorities said.

As storms moved through South Dakota, the weather service office in Sioux Falls issued its first tornado warning on record for the month of December.

And in Iowa, where schools closed early and some areas saw wind gusts of up to 90 mph, temperatures reached the lower 70s. On average, high temperatures in December throughout much of the state are in the 30s, according to the weather service.

# \$2 trillion economic bill still stuck in the Senate

Passage seems to be unlikely this year as Manchin holds out

**By Alan Fram** Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats' vast social and environment package was stuck in the Senate on Thursday as leaders' hopes for an accord with holdout Sen. Joe Manchin and approval of their flagship domestic measure in the year's waning days seemed all but dead.

After a closed-door lunch among Senate Democrats, Sen. Ben Cardin, D-Md., told reporters that a statement by President Joe Biden was expected shortly giving an update on "his conversations with Sen. Manchin and others."

Talks on the 10-year, roughly \$2 trillion bill between Biden and Manchin, who wants to cut and reshape the measure, are said to have yielded little progress. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., had set Senate passage before Christmas as his goal, but disputes with Manchin and other Democrats remain and it's become unclear how they would move forward without decisive interven-

tion by Biden.

Schumer barely mentioned the legislation as the day's business began. Instead, he described Democrats' efforts to break a logjam on voting rights legislation and a pile of nominations the Senate will consider "as we continue working to bring the Senate to a position where we can move forward" on the social and environment bill.

No. 2 Senate Democrat Dick Durbin of Illinois joked to reporters that Manchin "has been camped out in the Lincoln Bedroom and has his own parking space at the White House, he's been there so often" and said he "couldn't ask for Joe Biden to do more" to try reaching agreement with Manchin.

agreement with Manchin.

Using his sway in a 50-50
Senate where Democrats
need unanimity to prevail,
Manchin has continued his
drive to force his party to
cut the bill's cost and eliminate programs he opposes.
All Republicans oppose
the package, which carries
many of Biden's paramount
domestic priorities.

The rocky status of the Biden-Manchin talks was described Wednesday by a person who spoke only on condition of anonymity. The person said Manchin was pushing to eliminate the

bill's renewal of expanded benefits under the child tax credit, a keystone of Democratic efforts to reduce child poverty.

Manchin told reporters Wednesday that assertions he wants to strip the child tax credit improvements were "a lot of bad rumors." Asked if he backed eliminating one of the bill's child tax credit improvements — monthly checks sent to millions of families — he said, "I'm not negotiating with any of you."

Adding further doubt about quick Senate action this year, Biden suggested that Democrats should instead prioritize voting rights legislation, a primary party goal that Republicans have long stymied. Democrats face an uphill fight on the voting measure, but focusing on it would let them wage a battle that energizes the party's voters while lawmakers work behind the scenes on the social and environment bill.

Asked whether Congress should quickly consider the voting legislation and delay the \$2 trillion bill to next year, Biden told reporters, "If we can get the congressional voting rights done, we should do it." He added, "There's nothing domestically more important than



Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., makes his way through the U.S. Capitol after attending a meeting Thursday as the Senate grapples with year-end tasks in Washington. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

voting rights."

All of that produced a day of confusion in the Senate, where rank-and-file lawmakers and aides said they knew nothing about what legislation the chamber would tackle next, when and whether they would prevail.

Word of Manchin's stance prompted a backlash from colleagues, whom he's frustrated for months with constant demands to cut the bill's size and scope. The measure also has money for health care, universal prekindergarten and climate change programs, largely paid for with tax boosts on big corporations and the

Manchin has wanted the overall bill's 10-year price tag to fall below \$2 trillion. He also wants all its programs to last the full decade.

The current bill would extend the enhanced child tax credit for just one year, a device to contain the bill's cost. Renewing the improved benefits for 10 years would increase its current one-year cost of around \$100 billion to over \$1 trillion, and doing that

while cutting the overall bill's size would wreak havoc on Democrats' other priorities in the bill.

The Treasury Department says the expanded tax credit has helped the families of 61 million children.

Manchin's other demands have included removing a new requirement for paid family leave. Disputes among other lawmakers include how to increase federal tax deductions for state and local taxes.

The House approved its version of the legislation in November.



People hug Thursday at the Christian Aid Ministries headquarters in Titanyen, Haiti. **ODELYN JOSEPH/AP** 

# US missionary group freed in Haiti, police say

By Evens Sanon and Peter Smith

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

— The remaining members of a U.S. missionary group who were kidnapped two months ago in Haiti have been freed, Haitian police and the group said Thursday.

The spokesman for Haiti's National Police, Gary Desrosiers, confirmed to The Associated Press that the hostages had been released, but did not immediately provide additional details.

"We glorify God for answered prayer — the remaining 12 hostages are FREE!" Christian Aid Ministries said in a statement. "Join us in praising God that all 17 of our loved ones are now safe."

The Ohio-based group said it hopes to provide more information later.

"We're feeling great," said Ron Marks, minister at Hart Dunkard Brethren Church in Hart, Michigan, whose members were among the hostages. Carleton Horst, a member of the Hart congregation, said church members received a text message Thursday morning from "someone connected to the situation" that all of the hostages had been released. A mother and four of her children who belong to the church were among the hostages. Horst, who is friends with the family, said the church is rejoicing and he's "elated that that portion of things is finally over, just praise the Lord for that."

raise the Lord for that."

The missionaries were kidnapped by the 400 Mawozo gang on Oct. 16. There were five children in the group of 16 U.S. citizens and one Canadian, including an 8-month-old. Their Haitian driver also was abducted, according to a local human rights organization. It remained unclear Thursday whether any ransom was paid or what efforts led to the hostages' freedom.

# Omicron fears spread on campuses

Colleges brace for worst, urge boosters, reinstate restrictions

**WORLD & NATION** 

**By Collin Binkley** Associated Press

Facing rising infections and a new COVID-19 variant, colleges across the country have once again been thwarted in seeking a move to normalcy and are starting to require booster shots, extend mask mandates, limit social gatherings and, in some cases, revert to online classes.

The threat of the omicron variant comes as a gut punch to schools that were hoping to relax safety measures this spring. Now, many are telling students to prepare for another term of masking, testing and, if cases get bad, limits around social life.

Cornell University shut down all campus activities Tuesday and moved final exams online after more than 700 students tested positive over three days. In a campus message, President Martha Pollack said there was evidence of the omicron variant in a "significant" number of samples.

"It is obviously extremely dispiriting to have to take these steps," Pollack wrote. "However, since the start of the pandemic, our commitment has been to follow the science and do all we can to protect the health of our faculty, staff and students.

Hours later, Princeton University moved its exams online and urged students to leave campus "at their earliest convenience" amid a rise in cases.

Cornell and Princeton both report student vaccination rates of more than 98%.

After a fall with few coronavirus cases, officials at Syracuse University were "feeling pretty good" about the spring term, said Kent Syverud, the upstate New York school's chancellor.

"But omicron has changed that," Syverud said. "It has



When students at Stanford return to campus in January, they'll be barred from holding parties or big gatherings for two weeks. BEN MARGOT/AP 2019

made us go back and say, until we know more about this variant for sure, we're going to have to reinstate some precautions."

Last week, Syracuse announced that all eligible students and employees must get COVID-19 booster shots before the spring term. Students will also face a round of virus tests when they return, and officials are weighing whether to extend an existing mask mandate.

Much is still unknown about the omicron variant and how big of a threat it poses. In the United States and many other nations, the delta variant is currently responsible for most COVID-19 cases.

But as colleges brace for the worst, many see boosters as their best hope.

More than 20 colleges have issued booster shot

requirements in recent weeks, and others say they're thinking about it. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is encouraging boosters for people ages 17 and older, and Pfizer last week announced that a booster of its COVID-19 vaccine might offer important protection against omicron even though the initial two doses appear less effective.

Hundreds of colleges already require COVID-19 vaccines, and some say boosters are an obvious next

Most booster mandates have come from small liberal arts colleges, but the list includes some as big as Boston University, the University of Notre Dame and the University of New

The University of Massa-

chusetts in Amherst was among the first to require the booster for students, saying all students must get shots unless they have medi-

cal or religious exemptions. "The boosters are our best protection," said Jeffrey Hescock, co-director of the university's Public Health Promotion Center. "This demonstrates that we take public health seriously, and our students do too."

Emily O'Brien, a freshman at UMass, said the booster shot is a reasonable demand.

"If the past six months have shown anything, it's that lots of people won't bother to get vaccines especially younger healthy people — if they don't have a requirement to," said O'Brien, 18, of Bedford, New Hampshire.

UMass will also require masks at the start of spring term, and it's sending students home with a rapid test to be taken near the end of winter break.

Many colleges planning for potential disruption next semester are contending with campus outbreaks that have arisen in the weeks

after Thanksgiving. Middlebury College in Vermont switched to remote instruction last week amid a surge in cases and urged students to leave early for winter break. Rising cases at the University of Pennsylvania led to a ban on indoor social events last week.

Other colleges that have extended mask requirements into next year include Wake Forest University, West Virginia University and Penn State.

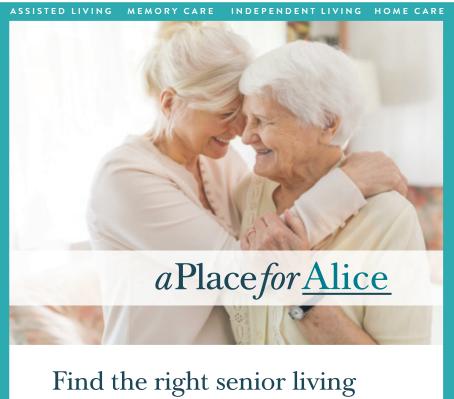
Some other schools are already postponing the return to campus next month to avoid outbreaks.

And when students at Stanford University return to campus in January, they will be barred from holding parties or other big gatherings for two weeks. They'll also be tested once a week and continue to wear masks indoors as requirements to attend in-person classes.

The measures aim to limit virus transmission without going too far in limiting the college experience, said Russell Furr, associate vice provost for environmental health and safety.

"This is something we've grappled with throughout the pandemic — how do we get a balanced approach?" Furr said.

The goal is to avoid the strict lockdowns seen early in the pandemic, when student mental health "really suffered," he added.



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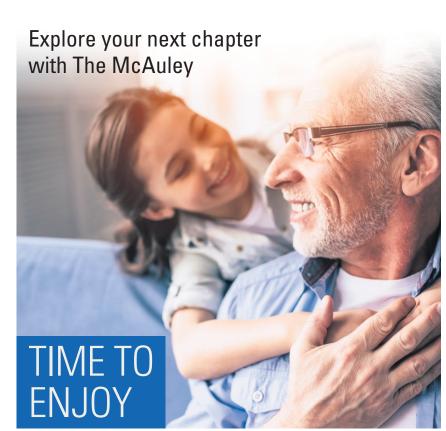
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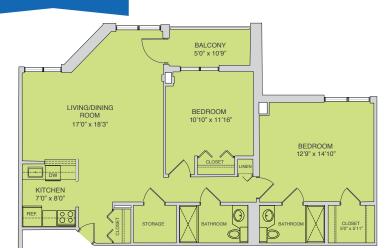


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# Proud Boys regroup on local level

Far-right militia has a growing presence at town meetings

**By Sheera Frenkel** The New York Times

They showed up last month outside the school board building in Beloit, Wisconsin, to protest school masking requirements.

They turned up days later at a school board meeting in New Hanover County, North Carolina, before a vote on a mask mandate.

They also attended a gathering in Downers Grove, Illinois, where parents were trying to remove a nonbinary author's graphic novel from public school libraries.

Members of the Proud Boys, the far-right nationalist group, have increasingly appeared in recent months at town council gatherings, school board presentations and health department question-and-answer sessions across the country. Their presence at the events is part of a strategy shift by the militia organization toward a larger goal: to bring their brand of menacing politics to the local level.

For years, the group was known for its national profile. The Proud Boys were prominent at the rallies of Donald Trump, at one point offering to serve as the former president's private militia. On Jan. 6, some Proud Boys members filmed themselves storming the U.S. Capitol to protest what they falsely said was an election that had been stolen from Trump.

But since federal authorities have cracked down on the group for the Jan. 6 attack, including arresting more than a dozen of its members, the organization has been more muted. Or at least that was how it appeared.

Away from the national spotlight, the Proud Boys instead quietly shifted attention to local chapters, some members and researchers



Members of the Proud Boys march last month during a protest against vaccine mandates in New York. STEPHANIE KEITH/GETTY

said. In small communities — usually suburbs or small towns with populations of tens of thousands — its followers have tried to expand membership by taking on local causes. That way, they said, the group can amass more supporters in time to influence next year's midterm elections.

"The plan of attack if you want to make change is to get involved at the local level," said Jeremy Bertino, a prominent member of the Proud Boys from North Carolina.

The group had dissolved its national leadership after Jan. 6 and was being run exclusively by its local chapters, Bertino said. It was deliberately involving its members in local issues, he added.

That focus is reflected in the Proud Boys' online activity. On the encrypted messaging app Telegram, the Proud Boys' main group in the United States has barely budged in number — with about 31,000 followers — over the last year. But over a dozen new Telegram channels have emerged for local Proud Boys chapters in cities such as Seattle and Philadelphia over that same period, according to data collected by The New York Times. Those local Telegram groups have rapidly grown from dozens to hundreds of members.

Other far-right groups that were active during Trump's presidency, such as the Oath Keepers and the Three Percenters, have followed the same pattern, researchers said. They have also expanded their local groups in states such as Pennsylvania, Texas and Michigan and are less visible nationally.

"We've seen these groups adopt new tactics in the wake of Jan. 6, which have enabled them to regroup and reorganize themselves," said Jared Holt, a resident fellow at the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research

Lab who researches domestic extremist groups. "One of the most successful tactics they've used is decentralizing."

ing."

The Proud Boys were founded in 2016 by Gavin McInnes, a co-founder of Vice. Enrique Tarrio, an activist and Florida director of Latinos for Trump, later took over as leader. The group, which is exclusively male, has espoused misogynistic, Islamophobic and anti-Semitic views, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, which has designated it as a hate group.

By the 2020 election, the Proud Boys — who often wear distinctive black-and-yellow uniforms — had become the largest and most public of the far-right militias. Last year, Trump referred to them in a presidential debate when he was asked about white nationalist groups, replying, "Proud Boys, stand back and stand by."

After the Jan. 6 Capitol

attack, the group grew disillusioned with Trump. The president distanced himself from the riot and declined to offer immunity to those who were involved. The Proud Boys have also experienced a leadership vacuum, after Tarrio was arrested two days before the Capitol attack on charges of property destruction and illegally holding weapons.

That was when the Proud Boys began concentrating on local issues, Holt said. But as local chapters flourished, he said, the group "increased their radical tendencies" because members felt more comfortable taking extreme positions in smaller circles.

Many Proud Boys' local chapters have now taken on causes tied to the coronavirus pandemic, with members showing up at protests over mask mandates and mandatory vaccination policies, according to researchers who study extremism.

This year, members of the

Proud Boys were recorded at 145 protests and demonstrations, up from 137 events in 2020, according to the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project, a nonprofit that monitors violence.

But the data most likely understate the Proud Boys' activities because it doesn't include school board meetings and local health board meetings, said Shannon Hiller, the executive director of the Bridging Divides Initiative, a nonpartisan research group that tracks political violence.

On the Proud Boys' local Telegram channels, members often share news articles and video reports about students who were barred from schools for refusing to wear a mask or employees who were fired over a vaccine requirement. Some make plans to appear at protests to act as "muscle," with the goal of intimidating the other side and attracting new members with a show of force, according to the Telegram conversations viewed by The Times.

"Tell me where I need to be and I am there," one member of a Proud Boys group in Wisconsin wrote last month about protests of mask mandates. "I can drive 5-6 hours in any direction."

At some local meetings where the Proud Boys have shown up, they have spoken and threatened community leaders, according to news reports. At others, they have simply stood silently and watched.

Often, their presence has been enough to disrupt events. Last month, the school board in Beloit said it canceled classes because some of the Proud Boys were at a local protest over mask requirements.

In Orange County, California, the school board said in September that it would install metal detectors and hire extra security after several Proud Boys attended a meeting and threatened its members.



with the Medal of Honor on Thursday in Washington, D.C. MANDEL NGAN/GETTY-AFP

# Biden presents 3 soldiers with top military award for valor

By Alexandra Jaffe and Aamer Madhani Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Thursday presented the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award for valor in combat, to three soldiers who fought in Afghanistan and Iraq. Two were recognized posthumously.

"Our hearts are overflowing with gratitude today as we honor the unparalleled courage, the commitment to duty, and the indispensable, indisputable gallantry," Biden said at a White House ceremony.

Those honored were: Master Sgt. Earl Plumlee, a Special Forces soldier

lee, a Special Forces soldier who fought off Taliban insurgents after an attack in Afghanistan in 2013. Sgt. 1st Class Christopher

Celiz, 32, an Army Ranger who died after stepping between Taliban fighters and a U.S. helicopter evacuating wounded in 2018 in Afghanistan.

Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn Cashe, 35, who died as a result of burns he suffered while rescuing fellow soldiers from a burning vehicle in Iraq in 2005.

Kate Celiz and Tamara Cashe accepted the medals of behalf of their families.

"As honored as you are, it's gotta be tough to be here today," Biden told Cashe's family.

Cashe is the first Black service member to receive the Medal of Honor for military actions since Vietnam, according to the White House. He was on patrol in Iraq in October 2005 when the Bradley Fighting Vehicle he was commanding was attacked with small arms fire and a roadside bomb. Cashe repeatedly returned to the burning vehicle and pulled six soldiers from the wreckage. Despite his burns, Cashe refused to board the medical evacuation helicopter until the other soldiers were evacuated first. Cashe, who grew up in Oviedo, Florida, died at a Texas hospital the following month. Three of the soldiers pulled from the flaming vehicle also died.

Celiz was leading an operation to clear an area of enemy forces in Afghanistan in 2018 when his team came under attack. He used his body to shield his unit from enemy fire as a casualty was loaded into a medi-

cal evacuation helicopter.

Remaining on the ground to cover the helicopter as it lifted off, Celiz positioned himself to shield the cockpit. He was hit by enemy fire. Despite his injuries, he motioned to the aircraft to depart rather than remain to load him at the risk of further casualties. Celiz was a South Carolina native and had enlisted in the Army in 2006.

Plumlee was serving at a base in Afghanistan when it came under attack, with insurgents blowing a 60-foot breach in the perimeter wall. Ten insurgents wearing Afghan National Army uniforms and suicide vests poured through. Plumlee and five other soldiers drove toward the explosion to head off the attack. Armed with just a pistol, Plumlee killed two insurgents and engaged several others at close range, despite heavy enemy fire and his own injuries. At one point, Plumlee ran to a wounded soldier, carried him to safety and rendered

first aid.
Plumlee is currently serving with the 1st Special Forces Group at Fort Lewis, Washington.

# NATO signals support to Kyiv amid Russia's military threat

By Michael Schwirtz
The New York Times

KYIV, Ukraine — Facing a building threat from Russia, Ukraine's president sought security guarantees from NATO's chief in a meeting Thursday and came away with a renewed commitment that his country could eventually join the military alliance despite objections

from its Russian neighbors.
While the timing of the statement by the chief, Jens Stoltenberg, sent an unmistakable message of support, it did not come with the commitments of military assistance that Ukrainian officials have been pleading for to deter, or possibly defend themselves against, a Russian military incur-

sion. Standing next to the Ukrainian leader, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Stoltenberg denounced the Russian military buildup but said nothing about providing Ukraine with the additional weaponry or troops it was seeking. He referred to a 2008 summit during which NATO members promised membership to Ukraine and Georgia.

"We stand by that deci-

sion," he said.

Ukraine has been locked in a grinding war with Russian-backed separatists since 2014 that has cost more than 13,000 lives. Although there is no indication it would be ready to join NATO anytime soon, Russian leaders argue that the prospect alone is a threat to Moscow's national security and have indicated they would be prepared to use force to stop it.

More than 100,000 Russian troops have been deployed to regions in the north, east and south of Ukraine, along with heavy artillery and tank units, as well as rocket forces armed with missiles capable of striking deep within



NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg, right, greets Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy with a fist bump Thursday at NATO headquarters in Brussels. **OLIVIER MATTHYS/AP** 

Ukraine, according to Western and Ukrainian officials. Western and Ukrainian intelligence agencies predict an incursion could begin within weeks or months.

It is Russia, Zelenskyy said Thursday — through its 2014 annexation of the Crimean Peninsula and continued military support for separatists in Ukraine's east — that has pushed the country toward NATO. The alliance has an interest in supporting Ukraine at this moment, he suggested, because should Russia attack, NATO could be drawn in whether it wants to be or not.

"NATO doesn't owe Ukraine anything," Zelenskyy said. "If our army is not able to hold up," he said, it is NATO that will have to step in to contain any fallout from a Russian attack that might affect its member states.

The United States, the European Union and NATO have all said that any new Russian incursion into Ukraine would be met with extraordinary economic sanctions, including the likelihood of killing a Kremlin project, the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline to Germany, which bypasses Ukraine. The U.S. also suggested that NATO would beef up its

troop presence near Russia. EU leaders met Wednesday with Zelenskyy.

There is no indication that Russian President Vladimir Putin has decided whether to begin such an attack, and there is no consensus among Western officials and analysts about why he might want to do so now. But for much of this year, Putin has been fixated on Ukraine, seemingly angered that a country so close to Russia in culture, language and geography has drifted so far from its orbit.

At the very least, according to observers, the military buildup appears to be part of an attempt to pressure NATO countries to reverse what the Kremlin sees as a plot to wrest Ukraine away.

NATO regards the notion of such a plot as absurd.

More than a dozen NATO countries have military advisers in Ukraine, including 150 from the U.S. Special Forces and National Guard. The U.S. has spent \$2.5 billion in security assistance, which has included surveillance equipment, patrol boats and Javelin anti-tank systems.

But because Ukraine is not a NATO member, the alliance is under no obligation to defend it in case of

# **NEWS BRIEFING**

**WORLD & NATION** 

# **US** ends settlement negotiations in family separation lawsuits

From news services

WASHINGTON — The U.S. government withdrew Thursday from settlement negotiations to end lawsuits filed on behalf of parents and children who were forcibly separated under the Trump administration's zero-tolerance border policy.

Justice Department officials informed lawyers for the plaintiffs in a conference call that the government would not offer a global settlement in family separation cases and will defend each one in court, said Lee Gelernt, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed one of the suits.

The decision comes after eight months of negotiations and weeks after reports of a proposed settlement that would include payments of several hundred thousand dollars to each family sparked outrage among Biden administration critics in Congress and elsewhere.

Gelernt said no explanation was given. "It's hard to understand DOJ's decision other than it was influenced by political considerations,"

The Justice Department suggested in a statement that settlements were still possible despite its withdrawal from the talks.

"While the parties have been unable to reach a global settlement agreement at this time, we remain committed to engaging with the plaintiffs and to bringing justice to the victims of this abhor-

rent policy," it said. About 5,500 children were forcibly removed from their parents in 2018 under President Donald Trump as his administration sought to stop an increase in people crossing the U.S.-Mexico border with criminal prosecutions, even if the migrants were presenting themselves to authorities to seek asylum as permitted under the law.

The parents of hundreds of children have still not been located.

Trump halted the practice in June 2018 amid widespread outrage, including from many Republi-cans, just six days before a judge ordered an end to the program in response to a lawsuit filed by the ACLU.

The settlement talks with the ACLU and attorneys for hundreds of other plaintiffs had proceeded quietly until The Wall Street Journal reported in October that the Justice Department was considering paying about \$450,000 to each person affected by the policy. The Associated Press later confirmed the figure had been under consideration.

**Supreme Court abortion:** 

The Supreme Court has formally returned a lawsuit over Texas' six-week abortion ban to a federal appeals court that has twice allowed the law to stay in effect, rather than to a district judge who sought to block it.
Justice Neil Gorsuch on

Thursday signed the court's order that granted the request of abortion clinics for the court to act speedily. But the clinics wanted the case sent directly to U.S. Judge Robert Pitman, who had previously though briefly blocked enforcement of the Texas abortion ban known as S.B. 8.

 $When \, Pitman \, ordered \, the$ law blocked in early October, the appeals court countermanded his order two days

Texas has said it will seek to keep the case bottled up at the appeals court for the foreseeable future.

Marc Hearron, the Center for Reproductive Rights lawyer who represented



Rescuers assist residents over floodwaters caused by Typhoon Rai as they are evacuated to higher ground Thursday in Cagayan de Oro City, southern Philippines. Officials said about 10,000 villages lie in the projected path of the typhoon. PHILIPPINES COAST GUARD

the clinics at the high court, said, "The Supreme Court left only a small sliver of our case intact, and it's clear that this part of the case will not block vigilante lawsuits from being filed. It's also clear that Texas is determined to stop the plaintiffs from getting any relief in even the sliver of the case that is left."

China sanctions: Senators gave final congressional approval Thursday to a bill barring imports from China's Xinjiang region unless businesses can prove they were produced without forced labor, overcoming initial hesitation from the White House and what supporters said was opposition from corporations.

The measure is the latest in a series intensifying U.S. penalties over China's alleged systemic and widespread abuse of ethnic and religious minorities in the western region, especially Xinjiang's predominantly Muslim Uyghurs. The Biden administration also announced new sanctions Thursday targeting several Chinese biotech and surveillance companies, a leading drone manufacturer and government entities for their actions in Xinjiang.

The Senate vote sends the bill to President Joe Biden.

**Bouncy castle deaths:** Five children died and four others were in critical condition Thursday after falling from a bouncy castle that was lifted 33 feet into the air by a gust of wind at a school on Australia's island state of Tasmania.

The school was holding a celebration to mark the end of the school year.

The children who died included two boys and two girls in year 6, which would make them 10 or 11 years old, said Tasmania police Commissioner Darren Hine. Police later Thursday confirmed a fifth child died in the hospital.

Five other children were being treated, including four in critical condition. Hine said an investigation is

underway.

Civil rights pioneer: A judge has approved a request to wipe clean the court record of a Black woman who was arrested for refusing to move to the back of a segregated Alabama bus in 1955, months before Rosa Parks gained international fame for doing the same.

A judge granted the request by Claudette Colvin, now 82, in a brief court order made public Thursday by a family representative.

Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man on Dec. 1, 1955. Her treatment led to the yearlong Montgomery Bus Boycott, which propelled the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. into the national limelight and often is considered the start of the modern civil rights movement.

A 15-year-old high school student at the time, Colvin refused to shift seats on a segregated Montgomery bus even before Parks.

A bus driver called police on March 2, 1955, to complain that two Black girls were sitting near two white girls in violation of segregation laws. One of the Black girls moved toward the rear when asked, a police report said, but Colvin refused and was arrested.

Musical festival deaths: The 10 people who lost their lives in a massive crowd surge at the Astroworld music festival in Houston died from compression asphyxia, officials announced Thursday.

Medical examiners with the Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences in Houston had to wait several weeks following the Nov. 5 concert by rapper Travis Scott for additional test results before making final determinations on cause and manner of the deaths. The 10 people who died

were among 50,000 who attended the festival and were in the audience when Scott's concert turned Some 300 people were

injured and treated at the festival site and 25 were taken to hospitals.

# the world in virus era

**By Roger Cohen** The New York Times

PARIS - A recent cartoon in the French daily Le Monde featured a bedraggled man arriving at a doctor's office for a COVID-19 vaccine.

"I am here for the fifth shot because of the third wave," he says. "Or vice versa.

His bewilderment as France suffers its fifth wave of the pandemic, with cases of the delta variant rising sharply along with omicron anxiety, captured a mood of exhaustion and simmering anger across the world two years after the deadly virus began to spread in China.

Uncertainty bedevils plans. Panic spreads in an instant even if, as with the omicron variant, the extent of the threat is not yet known. Vaccines look like deliverance until they seem a little less than that. National responses diverge with no discernible logic. Anxiety and depression spread. So do loneliness and screen fatigue. The feeling grows that the COVID-19 era will go on for years, like plagues of old.

Even in China, with no reported COVID-19 deaths since January, some confess weariness with the measures that have kept them safe when so many others perished.

"I'm so tired of all these routines," Chen Jun, 29, a tech company worker in the southern Chinese city of Shenzhen, said the other day. He was forced to take three COVID-19 tests in June following an outbreak in the city, and then had to quarantine for 14 days. Thumbtacks he used to pin on a world map to trace his travels have stopped multi-

plying.
"I'm starting to think we'll never see an end to the pandemic," he said.

This sense of endlessness, accompanied by grow-

ing psychological distress leading to depression, was a recurrent theme in two dozen interviews conducted in Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas. After two years of zigzagging policy and roller-coaster emotions, terrible loss and tantalizing false dawns, closing borders and intermittently shuttered schools, people's resilience has dwindled.

That is sure to pose new challenges for leaders trying to protect their people and their economies.

"I know it will only get worse, it won't stop, the pandemic will only turn more life-consuming," said Natalia Shishkova, a teacher in Moscow. "It is all chaos, like a fantasy film. You watch all these apocalypse films and realize their writers were real prophets."

Real progress in fighting the virus has been made. A year ago, vaccine rollouts were in their infancy. Today, about 47% of the world's population is inoculated. If case numbers remain high, death rates have plunged. Yet life seems out of control.

The pandemic not only makes this month's vacation or holiday celebrations seem uncertain, but also sometimes overwhelms understanding.

At the Paris laboratory of Maria Melchior, a French public health researcher who specializes in mental illness, in-person meetings had just been reinstated when, this week, she was told they would cease, with a return to Zoom gatherings.

"We no longer know when we will get back to normal," Melchior said.

And what is normal now? She paused.

"Well, at least a life without masks."

In Kenya, with infections declining in October, President Uhuru Kenyatta lifted a long-standing curfew. Bars filled. Musicians lined up concert dates, as they have in many parts of the world, where theaters and opera houses have reopened. Spirits rose.

Then, the omicron variant hit. Even before any cases were reported there. Kenva's leaders announced plans to bar unvaccinated people from offices and warned of new holiday-season restric-

Corrie Mwende, a communications specialist in Nairobi, said she had felt like "freedom was coming back" after a long period when "you could say it was like the end of the world."

Today she is unsure her hope will be fulfilled.

China has pursued a zero COVID-19 policy, virtually shutting its borders and deploying mass-testing, snap lockdowns and hightech contact tracing.

At the other extreme, Russia, despite a high rate of deaths, has done little to restrict movement.

The 27-nation European Union is split over whether to make vaccines obligatory, and policies vary widely: soccer stadiums are empty again in Germany, where infection rates have surged, but full in France, where they have, too, but a presidential election looms in four months.

Britain, under Prime Minister Boris Johnson, has veered between herd immunity temptations and the kind of periodic restrictions now in force again to combat the omicron variant.

In Brazil, whose president, Jair Bolsonaro, has minimized the pandemic's threat, the death toll has plunged to fewer than 300 a day from 3,000 in April. Samba concerts are back in the streets. Fireworks, after some back-and-forth, will light the sky over Copacabana beach to mark the New Year — unless some new disaster strikes.

Maybe that will be omicron: maybe not.

For now, every plan is a provisional plan.



# EPA pushing new limits on lead in drinking water

Biden administration hopes to finalize costly new rule by 2024, official says

By Lisa Friedman

The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency announced Thursday that it intends to propose stricter limits on the amount of lead allowable in drinking water and to begin replacing the millions of lead pipes that snake throughout the country and pose a significant public health threat.

Lead is a neurotoxin that can damage the brain and kidneys and interfere with red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of the body. It poses particular dangers to children, whose nervous systems and brains are still developing. From the earliest days of municipal water systems, lead was commonly used in pipes, where it can leach into drinking water.

Today, as many as 10 million lead service lines deliver water to schools, offices, homes and day care centers throughout the country. By one industry estimate, it could cost as much as \$60 billion to replace them all.

Congress approved just a fraction of that amount — \$15 billion — for lead pipe replacement — as part of the \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure law signed last month by President Joe Biden.

Until it was banned in 1978, lead-based paint was used in residential homes, where it poses a hazard to anyone who might ingest paint chips or inhale lead in dust. About 24 million housing units are considered to have significant lead-based paint hazards.

In previewing the plan, administration officials Wednesday said they did not have a time frame for replacing the millions of lead pipes, saying they wanted it done as soon as "feasible." Current federal regulations set a limit of 15 micrograms per liter of lead in drinking water, but health experts have long argued that lead should be eliminated from water supplies.

"The science on lead is settled," Michael Regan, administrator of the EPA, said in a statement. "There is no safe level of exposure, and it is time to remove this risk to support thriving people and vibrant

communities."

A senior official said the administration hoped to finalize the new rule by 2024. It is also unclear what the new standard will be.

And the EPA will allow a Trump-era set of lead policies to take effect — despite opposition from environmental groups.

Under the Trump administration, the EPA updated the 1991 Lead and Copper Rule, the primary regulation regarding lead in drinking water, for the first time in nearly three decades. But the agency rejected the advice of top medical and scientific experts to require the replacement of all lead pipes and service lines.

Instead, the EPA under President Donald Trump more than doubled the amount of time allowed for utilities to replace contaminated water systems.

But Biden officials, speaking to reporters Wednesday night, said the Trump administration rules included some important steps—like requiring water utilities to identify and publicly report the locations of all their lead service pipes. That will now go forward, starting immediately.



Samantha Estes prepares clothes to be photographed at ThredUp, an online consignment and thrift store, in Phoenix. MATT YORK/AP 2019

# Appeal of secondhand gifts

Supply chain delays adding extra incentive for holiday shoppers to try resale items

**By Leanne Italie** Associated Press

NEW YORK — Second hand. Like new. Thrift. Buy nothing. Gently used. There are lots of ways to describe consumption in the

booming resale market.
Add "Merry Christmas!" to the list.

Resale has taken off among those looking to save the planet and spend less on gifts during what can be the most wasteful time of the year — the December holidays. This year's supply chain delays have provided extra motivation.

"Gifting at its core should be about thoughtfulness, and arguably more thought is put into finding a meaningful, interesting secondhand gift for someone than just hitting the 'buy' button on something everyone is getting from Amazon," said Ashlee Piper, a sustainability expert and author of "Give a Sh\*t: Do Good. Live Better. Save the Planet."

One of her favorite gifts ever was a tattered copy of "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" that a friend found for \$2 at a thrift shop.

"It's kitschy, thoughtful and totally unique," Piper said.

The resale market is far from dominant overall and spans all ages. Industry reports have said the recent gains are driven mainly by Gen Z and Millennial shoppers.

Players large and small are reaping the benefits.

Luxury resale marketplace The RealReal, which has more than 23 million members after going public more than two years ago, said it saw a 60% jump last year over the year before among those choosing gift boxes with purchases during the holiday season. Last month, the online site, which has 16 brick-and-mortar consignment stores around the U.S., saw orders with gift boxes rise by 73% over the same month last year for unbranded jewelry. Such purchases were up 62% for Gucci items and 53% for Louis Vuitton selections, according to company data.

"The stigma is gone," said Marshal Cohen, a consumer behavior and retail analyst for the NPD Group."

Sales of gift cards for online thrift giant ThredUp, which went public earlier this year, were up 103% during the first two weeks of December compared to the entire month of November, said Erin Wallace, vice president of integrated marketing.

resident of integrated marketing.
"Resale doesn't necessarily mean used.

A lot of resellers resell new items that are currently scarce as they've planned their inventory for months to accommodate holiday shopping demands," said Clara Albornoz, co-founder and CEO. "Buyers can see a variety of options, easily price compare, shop from their home, get their items quickly and affordably, and delivered straight to them, usually with opportunities to return if there are any issues."

Another company, Recurate, enables brands to create their own resale platforms on their websites.

"Recurate's sales over the Black Friday and Cyber Monday week were over 50% higher than average," said Karin Dillie, vice president of partnerships. She said customers are seeking resale items "to satisfy their own deal hunting as well as to purchase as gifts."

Appealing specifically to Gen Z, the resale marketplace Galaxy provides live shows for buyers and sellers to interact in real time. It recently hosted a five-day holiday event involving 40 top sellers.

"By being able to have real time conversations through live video and SMS messaging, sellers and shoppers get to build a relationship. This often leads to sellers becoming trusted curators of your wardrobe and your holiday shopping," said Danny Quick, co-founder and CEO.

# Candle firm survivors in Kentucky file lawsuit

By Bruce Schreiner Associated Press

MAYFIELD, Ky. — Survivors of a tornado that leveled a Kentucky candle factory, killing eight workers, have filed a lawsuit claiming their employer demonstrated "flagrant indifference" by refusing to allow employees to go home early as the storm approached.

The lawsuit filed in state court late Wednesday accuses the company of violating Kentucky occupational safety and health workplace standards by keeping its staff at work despite the danger of death and injury. The suit seeks compensatory and punitive damages from Mayfield Consumer Products.

Bob Ferguson, a spokesman for the company, has previously insisted that employees were free to leave anytime, and he denied that they would have faced retribution if they left.

CEO Troy Propes said the company was retaining "an independent expert team" to review the actions of managers and employees before the tornado struck.

"We're confident that our team leaders acted entirely appropriately and were, in fact, heroic in their efforts to shelter our employees," he said. "We are hearing accounts from a few employees that our procedures were not followed. We're going to do a thorough review of what happened."

The lawsuit claims the factory had "up to 3½ hours before the tornado hit its place of business to allow its employees to leave its worksite as safety precautions." The factory showed "flagrant indifference to the rights" of the workers by refusing to do so, the lawsuit said.

Haley Condor, an employee of the factory, said Tuesday that a supervisor threatened her with written disciplinary action if she went home early because storms were approaching.

# **BUSINESS BRIEFING**

# Industrial output rises 0.5% in Nov.

WASHINGTON — U.S. industrial production increased 0.5% in November as output at the nation's factories reached the highest level since January 2019.

The November gain followed an even larger 1.7% increase in October, a rebound from a 1% decline in September, the Federal Reserve reported Thursday.

There were severe supply chain problems afflicting manufacturers in September that reduced output at U.S. auto plants, on top of the adverse effects from refinery shutdowns along the Gulf Coast because of Hurricane Ida.

For November, manufacturing output rose 0.7%, led by an ongoing rebound in the auto sector, where output rose 2.2% following a 10.1% surge in October.

# Indictment after Calif. crude spill

LOS ANGELES — A Houston-based oil company and two subsidiaries were indicted Wednesday for a crude spill that fouled Southern California waters and beaches in October, an event prosecutors say was caused in part by failing to properly act when alarms repeatedly alerted workers to a pipeline rupture.

Amplify Energy Corp. and its companies that operate several oil rigs and a pipeline off Long Beach were charged by a federal grand jury with a single misdemeanor count of illegally discharging oil.

Investigators believe the pipeline was weakened when a cargo ship's anchor snagged it in high winds in January, months before it ruptured Oct. 1, spilling about 25,000 gallons of crude oil in the ocean.

# Facebook whistleblower signs a book deal

By Hillel Italie Associated Press

NEW YORK — The former Facebook manager who startled the world this fall by leaking tens of thousands of internal documents and accusing her former employer of caring more about money than about public safety has a book deal.

Little, Brown and Co. announced Thursday that it had acquired a planned memoir, "offering a critical examination of Facebook," by Frances Haugen. The book does not yet have a title or release date. Financial

terms were not disclosed.
"During my time at Facebook I realized a devastating truth: almost nobody outside of Facebook knows what happens inside

of Facebook. They operate in the dark," Haugen said in a statement.

"They win by keeping their systems closed without oversight or transparency, by shrouding their operations in secrecy

and PR spin."

Haugen's prominence has been cited as a sign of a rising wave of Big Tech whistleblowers.

In Senate testimony in October, Haugen alleged that the company had failed to make changes to Instagram even after internal research showed apparent harm to some teens and had not done enough to combat hate speech and misinformation.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has disputed her accounts, calling them a "false picture" of the company, but shared

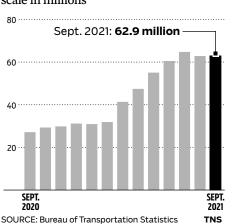
her view that the government needed to update its internet regulations.

A native of Iowa City, Iowa, Haugen is a data expert with a degree in electrical and computer engineering from Olin College and a master's degree in business from Harvard. She already had 15 years of experience with tech companies, including Google and Yelp, before being recruited by Facebook in 2019 and joining in its civic integrity unit as lead product manager.

Haugen and others have said that Facebook eliminated the civic integrity unit after the November 2020 election — Facebook says the unit was not eliminated, but integrated into a larger team. She left Facebook in May, but not before spending weeks reviewing and copying documents.

# Airline traffic

Monthly scheduled passengers on U.S. airline flights, international and domestic, scale in millions



## **BUSINESS**

# Hartford-based Beauty Enterprises to lay off 65 workers



African American beauty products were a niche market when Hartford native Bob Cohen started Beauty Enterprises in the city in 1967. The national company recently announced layoffs at its Hartford locations. RACHEL WOOLF/BALTIMORE SUN

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

HARTFORD - A Hartford-based distributor of ethnic beauty products will lay off 65 workers, according to a notice to the state labor department.

The mass layoff at Beauty Enterprises locations on Meadow Street and Elliot Street is expected to happen on Jan. 2, company CFO Larry Sussman wrote in a letter posted on the labor department website.

Sussman said Thursday that another company recently acquired Beauty Enterprises and some of the workers listed in the layoff notice are being offered jobs with that company. He would not name the company.

Founded in Hartford in 1967, Beauty Enterprises is described on its website as an international distributor of ethnic beauty products with 210,000 square feet of warehouse space in Connecticut, Alabama, California, Michigan and New York.

The company employs a total of about 275 people, Sussman said. The website says workers distribute products from Revlon and other manufacturers to retail and discount chains throughout the country.

Bob Cohen, a Hartford native who died in 2018, founded the company after seeing a niche market for hair and skincare products for the African American community, according to his obituary. The compa-

ny's big break came when a buyer for Zayre, the discount store chain, awarded Beauty Enterprises national distribution, according to Cohen's

Workers listed in the layoff notice include 24 warehouse clerks, four merchandisers, four people in shipping and receiving, three directors, three drivers and three general managers.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@ courant.com

# In many parts of the nation, evictions rise after ban ends

**By Michael Casey** Associated Press

BOSTON — Soon after losing his trucking job amid the pandemic, Freddie Davis got another blow: His landlord in Miami was almost doubling the rent on

his Miami apartment. Davis, 51, braced for what he feared would come next. In September he was evicted — just over a month after a federal eviction moratorium ended. He's now languishing in a hotel, aided by a nonprofit that helps homeless people.

He wants to find a new apartment, but it's proving impossible on his \$1,000-a-month disability

We live in America, and the thing is, people like me, we got to go to the street if we don't have no other place to go because we can't afford rent," said Davis, who lost a leg to diabetes, suffers congestive heart failure and is recovering from multiple wounds on his other leg and foot. "I really can't do noth-

The federal ban, along with a mix of state and federal moratoriums, is

credited with keeping Davis and millions of others in their homes during the pandemic and preventing the spread of the corona-

But housing advocates say evictions are on the rise in many parts of the country – though numbers remain below pre-pandemic levels due to the infusion of federal rental assistance and other pandemic-related assistance.

Part of the increase is due to courts catching up on the backlog of eviction cases.

But advocates say the upsurge also shows the limits of federal emergency rental assistance in places where distribution remains slow and tenant protections are weak.

Rising housing prices in many markets also are playing a role.

According to the latest data from the Eviction Lab at Princeton University, evictions have been rising in most of the 31 cities and six states where it collects data.

Among the concerns is that some landlords who got federal assistance are still evicting tenants.

"In many states, landlord

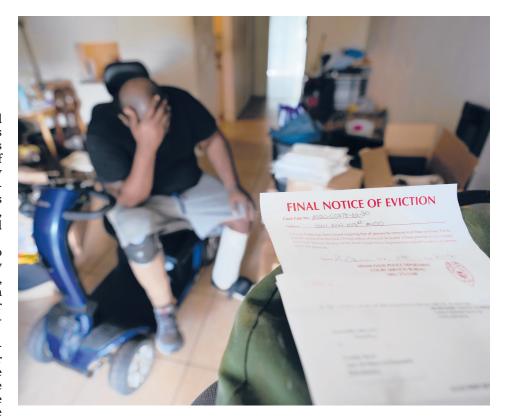
tenant law is antiquated and designed to provide results for landlords," said Shamus Roller, executive director of the National Housing Law Project. "Instead of adjudicating the facts, courts function as conveyor belts, moving tenants toward

eviction." Among those who contend they were illegally evicted is Faye Moore, 72, who returned home from work in October to find her life spread out on the sidewalk.

Behind several thousand dollars rent on her two-bedroom townhouse in an Atlanta suburb, Moore figured she would get the chance to present her case to a judge, including that management refused to take her rent money for months and that she was given no notice before she was evicted.

"I'm devastated. It was a house full of furniture. Everything," said Moore, a retired mental health therapist who is now staying in a hotel with her partner, Garry Betared, 61.

Cicely Murray, a HUD housing counselor with the Neighborhood Assistance



Freddie Davis, who lost a leg to diabetes, waits for a friend to help him move his belongings to a storage unit after his eviction Sept. 29 in Miami. REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

Corporation of America who is working with Moore, was most upset that the couple was evicted without

a court hearing. "I'm angry that anyone would put an elderly couple out without trying to figure out what resources are there," Murray said. "We are still in a pandemic."

But landlords, especially smaller ones who own a

handful of apartments, have also struggled.

They believed the moratorium was illegal and saddled them with months of back rent they may never get back. Others were forced to lay off maintenance staff or sell units as they awaited federal rental assistance that was slow to

be distributed. Some localities have lagged behind in getting out their portion of the \$46.5 billion in federal Emergency Rental Assistance.

According to a November report from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, 28% of grantees - 32 states and 80 localities — spent less than 30% of their first allocation of money and risk losing those funds.

# MARKET RUNDOWN

Friday, December 17, 2021







| 36,200 ······<br>35,220 ····<br>34,240 ····· | 10 DA    | YS         | Close | Jones ir<br>: 35,897<br>ge: -29. | 7.64 |            |
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|---------------|------------|---------|---------|
|               | CLOSE      | CHG.    | YTD     |
| DOW Indus.    | 35,897.64  | -29.79  | +17.29% |
| DOW Trans.    | 16,001.33  | -102.67 | +27.94% |
| DOW Util.     | 962.87     | +5.61   | +11.36% |
| NYSE Comp.    | 16,849.09  | +35.52  | +16.00% |
| Nasdaq Comp.  | 15,180.43  | -385.15 | +17.78% |
| S&P 500       | 4,668.67   | -41.18  | +24.30% |
| S&P 400       | 2,731.50   | -35.15  | +18.42% |
| Wilshire 5000 | 47.325.83  | -541.00 | +19.94% |

2,152.46

-42.75

Russell 2000

| Coi   | nmoditi                             | ies                               |                               |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FUELS   | CLOSE                               | PREV.                             | YTD                           |
| Crude Oil (bbl)<br>Natural Gas (mm btu)<br>Unleaded Gas (gal) | 72.38<br>3.77<br>2.18               | 70.87<br>3.80<br>2.13             | +49.18%<br>+48.33%<br>+52.96% |
| METALS  | CLOSE                               | PREV.                             | YTD                           |
| Gold (oz)<br>Silver (oz)<br>(Previous and change figures      | 1,796.60<br>22.46<br>reflect curren | 1,762.60<br>21.51<br>t contract.) | -5.10%<br>-14.72%             |

| Forei   | gn Excl             | nange               | Money        | Rate  | s            |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------|--------------|
|         | ForEx in<br>U.S. \$ | U.S. \$<br>in ForEx |              | CLOSE | PREV.<br>WK. |
| Britain | 1.3309              | .7514               | Prime rate   | 3.25  | 3.25         |
| Canada  | .7815               | 1.2796              | 3-mo. T-Bill | 0.05  | 0.06         |
| China   | .1570               | 6.3683              | 6-mo. T-Bill | 0.13  | 0.13         |
| Euro    | 1.1324              | .8831               | 5-yr T-Note  | 1.19  | 1.25         |
| Japan   | .008802             | 113.61              | 10-yr T-Note | 1.42  | 1.49         |
| Mexico  | .048030             | 20.8203             | 30-yr T-Bond | 1.86  | 1.89         |
|         |                     | AL-1L-              |              |       |              |

|           | Globa     | l Marke | ts     |         |
|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|---------|
|           | CLOSE     | CHG.    | %CHG.  | %YTD    |
| Frankfurt | 15,636.40 | +160.05 | +1.03% | +13.98% |
| London    | 7,260.61  | +89.86  | +1.25% | +12.38% |
| Hong Kong | 23,475.50 | +54.74  | +.23%  | -13.79% |
| Nikkei    | 29,066.32 | +606.60 | +2.13% | +5.91%  |
|           |           |         |        |         |

# **Stocks of Local Interest**

+8.99%

| STOCK (TICKER)                          | CLOSE            | CHG.          | YTD<br>%CHG    | STOCK (TICKER)             | CLOSE   | CHG.   | YTD<br>%CHG |
|---|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------|--------|-------------|
| AMC Entertainment A (AMC                | 24.45            | 21            | +1053.3        | Magellan Health Inc (MGLN) | 94.65   | +.40   | +14.3       |
| AT&T Inc (T)                            | 23.71            | +1.54         | -17.6          | Meta Platforms Inc (FB)    | 334.90  | -6.76  | +22.6       |
| Adagio Therapeutics (ADGI)              | 14.18            | +7.83         | -32.1          | MetLife Inc (MET)          | 61.39   | +.57   | +30.8       |
| Adv Micro Dev (AMD)                     | 138.64           | -7.86         | +51.2          | Microsoft Corp (MSFT)      | 324.90  | -9.75  | +46.1       |
| American Airlines Gp (AAL)              | 16.52            | 47            | +4.8           | Norwegian Cruise Ln (NCLH  | ) 19.34 | 73     | -23.9       |
| Amer Virtual Cloud (AVCT)               | 1.68             | +.15          | -76.7          | Novartis AG (NVS)          | 86.07   | +4.55  | -8.9        |
| Amphenol Corp (APH)                     | 83.55            | 82            |                | Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)  | 283.87  | -20.72 | +117.4      |
| Annaly Capital Mgmt (NLY)               | 8.06             | 04            | -4.6           | Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS) | 86.51   | +1.59  | +28.1       |
| Apple Inc (AAPL)                        | 172.26           | -7.04         | +29.8          | Palantir Technol (PLTR)    | 18.34   | 52     | -22.1       |
| Avangrid Inc (AGR)                      | 48.48            | +.03          | +6.7           | Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)    | 17.58   | +.19   | +36.0       |
| Bakkt Holdings Inc (BKKT)               | 9.08             | -4.68         |                | Pfizer Inc (PFE)           | 61.25   | +2.45  | +66.4       |
| Bank of America (BAC)                   | 45.00            | +1.06         | +48.5          | , ,                        |         | +2.45  |             |
| Barnes Group (B)                        | 44.87            | +.28          | -11.5          | Pitney Bowes (PBI)         | 6.54    |        | +6.2        |
| Barrick Gold (GOLD)                     | 18.44            | +.79          | -19.1          | Plug Power Inc (PLUG)      | 29.65   | -1.71  | -12.6       |
|   | 2164.91          | +34.53        | -2.8           | Prudential Fncl (PRU)      | 108.05  | +1.12  | +38.4       |
| Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)                     | 62.17            | +1.56         | +.2            | Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)       | 65.61   | +.06   | +12.5       |
| CVS Health Corp (CVS)                   | 101.22           | +.67          | +48.2          | Raytheon Technolog (RTX)   | 82.70   | 73     | +15.6       |
| Carnival Corp (CCL)                     | 17.57            | 32            | -18.9          | Rogers Corp (ROG)          | 270.20  | 39     | +74.0       |
| Carrier Global Corp (CARR)              | 53.87            | +.32          | +42.8          | SS&C Technlogies (SSNC)    | 79.91   | 18     | +9.8        |
| Charter Communic (CHTR)                 | 631.58           | +14.26        | -4.5           | SeaChange Intl Inc (SEAC)  | 1.67    | 02     | +19.3       |
| Cigna Corp (CI)                         | 218.67           | +1.21         | +5.0           | Snap Inc A (SNAP)          | 44.70   | -1.71  | -10.7       |
| Cisco Syst (CSCO)                       | 60.31            | +.38          | +34.8          | SoFi Technologies (SOFI)   | 14.27   | 89     | -37.0       |
| Citigroup (C)                           | 61.07            | +.83          | -1.0           | Sthwstn Energy (SWN)       | 4.55    | 21     | +52.7       |
| CocaCola Co (KO)                        | 58.65            | +.59          | +6.9           | Stanley Black & Deck (SWK) | 191.44  | 54     | +7.2        |
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| Honeywell Intl (HON)                    | 209.61           | 15            | -1.5           | US Steel Corp (X)          | 23.45   | +.85   | +39.8       |
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# PINION

# Oh, God, guns. Nine years after Newtown, still guns.



**Gail Collins** 

Americans who try to keep track of what's going on in Congress frequently fall back on a cry of Why don't they just ...

It comes up when there's an apparently endless string of crises that appear to have simple, at least partial solutions.

So why don't they just ...

The answer is almost never satisfactory. Obscure rules. Joe Manchin. Congressional Budget Office report still pending.

One good, terrible example is mass shootings. It's easy to throw your hands up in despair — our lawmakers should have spent a lot more time trying to avoid disasters like that hideous school bloodbath in Michigan. The shooter was a student. using a gun that his parents had given him as a present. Mom and Dad are charged with involuntary manslaughter by a wildly frustrated prosecutor, but it's hard to tell if this will work.

Still, whether the charges stick or not, it's clear the parents were the problem. "LOL, I'm not mad at you. You have to learn not to get caught," Jennifer Crumbley texted her son after a teacher found him looking at ammunition online.

Jennifer and her husband, James, seemed to believe that sharing weaponry with your son was a great way of bonding. According to prosecutors, Ethan Crumbley, 15, got a gun from a drawer in his parents' bedroom — Michigan is among the majority of states that don't have enough rules requiring secure storage. And very soon, four of his fellow students were dead.

Guns, often loaded, are left lying around a terrifying number of homes. Why doesn't Congress at least pass a law requiring they be kept under lock and key?



Photographs of four slain students — Hana St. Juliana, Madisyn Baldwin, Tate Myre and Justin Shilling — at a memorial site at Oxford High School in Michigan. JAKE MAY/THE FLINT JOURNAL

Well, it's not as if nobody thought about it. "I'm really trying to seize the moment," said Sen. Richard Blumenthal of Connecticut. Whenever terrible gun issues come up, it's a good idea to talk to the lawmakers from Connecticut, where, back in 2012, a former student killed 20 first graders and six educators at a school in Newtown.

Many, many Americans remember the Newtown shooting — how they felt when they heard about it and, possibly, the confident expectation that this horror would mean the beginning of powerful gun safety

Nah. And Blumenthal says that so far he's still "nowhere near" the 60 votes needed in the Senate to overcome a Republican filibuster and pass a bill mandating safe storage.

Opponents, to the degree that they bother to justify themselves at all, say that if all guns were locked up, owners might not be able to get their hands on their

weapons fast enough in case murderous intruders broke into their home.

"The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun," snarled Wayne LaPierre, the deeply disgraced and yet still CEO of the National Rifle Associ-

That's Wayne's world vision. Or you can look at it this way: Based on a study published in Preventive Medicine, guns were actually used for self-defense at home in approximately 1% of crimes surveyed between 2007 and 2011.

Meanwhile, according to Everytown for Gun Safety, this year there were at least 322 unintentional shootings by children in American homes, resulting in 132 deaths and 206 injuries.

And we've been through hundreds of school shootings since Newtown. The only real, serious response seems to have been the education of our children in what to do when a classmate starts spraying bullets.

The United States is a world leader in teaching youngsters how to duck and cover behind their desks.

Even the modest gun regulation the country has managed to pass gets mangled, mauled and dismembered over time.

Connecticut's other senator, Chris Murphy, has been laboring endlessly on the law requiring background checks for gun purchasers. There's a large hole in the rules when it comes to weapons bought from private sellers. "I spent a lot of time earlier in the year trying to negotiate a compromise," he said. But nada.

Last week, Murphy asked for unanimous consent for the Senate to take up his background check bill. "I understand the low likelihood of success," he said – accurately, as it happens. But given the tragedy in Michigan, he thought it was the least he and his colleagues could do.

Actually, it's always possible to do less. Sen. Chuck Grassley, the Judiciary Committee's top Republican, blocked Murphy's request.

This frustration is a very familiar story. Back in 1994 the Senate passed a ban on assault weapons — those rapid-fire guns that figure so prominently in mass shootings. It was under the leadership of one Sen. Joe Biden, who allowed the inclusion of a 10-year expiration date.

Whoops. After a decade, assault weapons came back like the swallows to Capistrano. The Arctic terns to Greenland. The gray whales to Baja. All attempts to get rid of them have flopped.

Well, at least Biden is back in power, ready to restart a fight for real gun safety. Unfortunately, so far he hasn't even been able to get Congress to confirm a nominee to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Or, it seems, pass a law requiring gun owners to keep their weapons stored in a

Collins is a columnist for The New York

# How Hispanics became swing voters



**Ross Douthat** 

The chart that should frighten Democratic strategists appears in the 23rd slide of a newly released report from Equis Research, which tries to explain the Hispanic shift toward the Republican Party in the 2020 election. It shows how favorably Hispanic voters responded to a variety of Donald Trump's positions and policies, on COVID-19 and the economy and immigration — more favorably, in many cases, than many liberals would have expected.

Some responses aren't all that surprising: 77% favorability for pandemic stimulus, 74% favorability for "rapid vaccine development," 69% for middle-class tax cuts (who could be against middle-class tax cuts?). Some of them offer interesting evidence that Trump's COVID insouciance, his attempt to prioritize economic reopening over precaution, was popular with Hispanic voters: "reopen economy" at 66%, "COVID policy set by states" at 62%, 'living without fear of COVID" at 55%.

But it's the numbers on immigration and border policy that are particularly notable. Trump's family-separation policy, not surprisingly, polls at 28%. But "more border spending" gets 55% approval, "limiting refugees/asylum" receives 51% and even "reducing legal immigration" gets

At the same time, "more deportations" and "build the wall" poll lower, at 42% and 39%. But then recall that Trump got only 38% of the Hispanic vote overall. Which means that in an important sense, despite overperforming expectations, he arguably underperformed his potential with Hispanics. He didn't even consolidate the full share of voters who favored building his border wall, let alone the share that supported other forms of immigration restriction, let alone the share that agreed with his COVID response.

Or as the report puts it, "Absent any context, the numbers might even suggest that the incumbent should have done better than he did."

This is just one survey, but it's congruent with a lot of different data sources suggesting that Trump's improvement with Hispanics in 2020, rather than an outlier that other Republicans won't hit, represents a foundation on which the GOP could potentially build further gains. Ruy Teixeira, the analyst whose famous "emerging Democratic majority" thesis (shared with John Judis) was welcomed and then misinterpreted by Democrats banking on the inevitable march of demographic change, has been particularly aggressive in warning about this scenario. In a recent post, he rattled off several polling results suggesting that Republicans could be moving close to parity in the Hispanic vote — a true political earthquake if it ever happened.

In the long-ago days of the George W. Bush presidency, there was a lot of talk from pro-immigration Republicans about how Hispanics were "natural Republicans" - meaning family-oriented, religious,



Then-President Donald Trump arrives for a rally with Latino supporters in Phoenix in 2020. BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/GETTY-AFP

hardworking, in love with the American dream. But as the political parties were aligned in those days, Hispanics fit pretty comfortably in the Democratic coalition. Even if they were more culturally conservative than white Democrats, they prioritized issues like health care and jobs and education and generally trusted the Democratic Party more on a range of domestic

policy questions. The Republican elites who imagined that they could make inroads with Hispanics by passing a comprehensive immigration reform bill weren't completely out of touch, since there was often strong Hispanic support for that kind of measure. But the Republican Party's core obstacle was always economic policy. Bush's "compassionate conservatism" probably helped him to a relatively strong showing with Hispanics in 2004, although one overstated by flawed exit polls (he probably got about 39%, not the oft-quoted 44%). But thereafter the party moved right on economics, and the sequence of Bush's push for Social Security privatization, the tea party's anti-spending zeal and then the Romney-Ryan ticket's promise of entitlement cuts all made the Republicans too economically libertarian to appeal to most

Hispanics. Since then, though, three crucial things have changed. First, the shape of immigration is different: Both legal and illegal immigration have become less Latin American and more global, with a new pattern of rushes to the border by asylum-seekers who are more likely to come from Central America than Mexico. A simple story in which American Hispanics effectively

saw themselves in every subsequent wave of migrants never quite fit reality, but for, say, a second-generation Mexican American in Texas, it fits the reality of 2021 less than the reality of 15 years ago. As this shift was happening, the Democrats were moving leftward on most fronts, following public opinion at first (on same-sex marriage, for instance) but then arguably outpacing it. On economic policy, what counts as "centrism" from Joe Manchin today would have placed him to the left of Barack Obama in 2010; on cultural and racial issues, the radicalization of white Democrats has moved them to the left of many Hispanic voters; on social issues, the kind of anti-abortion Democrat who once held the balance of power in the House of Representatives has mostly gone extinct.

Then Trump's ascent in 2016 suspended the Republican commitment to austerity, entitlement cuts and other features of its tea party-era agenda. That didn't help Republicans make gains with Hispanics in 2016 because Trumpian bigotry was front and center - though keen observers noted that he did no worse than Romney in 2012.

But the subsequent strength of the Trump economy, the sidelining of his party's deficit hawks and his administration's willingness to spend money in the face of the pandemic all created an opening for Republicans to cast themselves as pro-capitalism moderates and to portray the leftward-moving, Bernie Sanders-influenced Democrats as socialists. That frame was effective — the apparent potency of the "socialism" charge is discussed in the Equis Research report and much more to the GOP's advantage

than a clash between stringent government cutters and moderate-welfare-state liberals, which was how the parties often

appeared in the Obama era. Its emerging opportunity with Hispanic voters, then, crystallizes the larger Republican Party opportunity right now — where it's clear enough that a party that was genuinely moderate on economics, Trumpishly populist without being Trumpishly toxic, could lay claim to a lot of swing voters, and all without making the sweeping moves leftward on issues like immigration that were urged on Republicans 10 or 15 years ago. The question, as always, is how much of the party's core of donors and activists and voters wants to be economically moderate or wants to be nontoxic; I still think the answer is "not enough."

The Democrats' Hispanic challenge likewise distills their larger political problem: How to recreate some version of their early Obama-era messaging, which presented a moderate liberalism that appealed more effectively to working-class voters of all races, in a very different social and economic landscape, in a party with a much more powerful and demanding progressive wing.

One way or another that adaptation will be fraught and painful. But this is the moment when the Democrats need to do it — when the Hispanic realignment is still more hypothetical than real, still more visible in issue surveys than electoral results, still only a harbinger of an epic political defeat rather than the thing itself.

Douthat is a columnist for The New York



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STATE OF CONNECTICUT SUPERIOR COURT
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Therefore, ORDERED, that notice of the hearing of this petition be given by publishing this Order of Notice once, immediately upon receipt, in the Hartford Courant, a newspaper having circulation in the town/city of Hartford, CT
Judge: Hon. Carl E. Taylor
Signed: Peter J. Fradiani - Deputy Clerk Date Signed: Dec. 15, 2021

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# **Connecticut**

# Legal Notice Request for Letters of Interest Task Order Historic and Archaeological Support Services

Connecticut Department The Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) is seeking to engage four (4) consulting firms to provide historic documentation and archaeological investigations for transportation projects in accordance with State and Federal regulations. More detailed information regarding this assignment can be found at: https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Consultant-Selection/Consultant-Selection-Information.

Connecticut Department of Transportation An Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action 12/16/21, 12/17/21 7104940

# REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Town of Manchester, CT will receive sealed proposals in the Purchasing office, Lincoln Center Building, 494 Main Street until January 10, 2022 @ 2:00 p.m. for RFP NO: 21/22-46 Consultant Services Emergency Replacement Program. The Request for Proposal package is available on the Town webpage at http://generalservices1.townofmanchester.org/index.cfm/bids/.

The Town is an equal opportunity employer and requires an affirmative action policy for all of its contractors and vendors as a condition of doing business with the Town, as per Federal Order 11246. 12/17/21 7108511

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Katie Baumgartner Assistant to Business Manager/Finance 12/17/21 7108872

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1. Qualifications and Proposals must be submitted to Gilbane Building Company, 208 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT 06033, Attention: Stephanie Greenman, Preconstruction Manager Sferenman

06033, Attention: Stephianie dicentioni, Preconstruction Manager SGreenman@ Gilbaneco.com by December 31st, 2021, 12:00PM (emailed RFQ/P's will be accepted and are encouraged.)

Complete RFQ/P and associated

2. Complete RFQ/P and associated documents may be obtained from the Town's website, https://www.southwindsor-ct.gov/bids/or the following link: https://gfs.gilbaneco.com/portal/ RawWebAppPage.aspx/fid/107700016015 08233766\_9330022895106269134

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3. Questions must be directed to Taylor Crouse via email (TCrouse@Gilbaneco.com).
4. Gilbane Building Company reserves the right to reject any and all submissions.
5. Gilbane Building Company is an Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/H/V. Stephanie Greenman Preconstruction Manager Gilbane Building Company
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12/17/21 7108892

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Proposals are to be mailed or hand delivered to Team Inc. at the Derby address above. Team Inc. is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Minority business enterprises, women business enterprises

are encouraged to apply. Team Inc. reserves the right to waive any in formality, to reject any or all proposals or any part of any proposals when it is determined to be in their best interest. Team Inc. will not be responsible for any cost involved in the preparation of the quotation. Questions may be directed to Mr. Edward

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# **OBITUARIES BY TOWN**

Avon Dorothy S. Floyd Berlin Cecylia Barnat Alfred A. Gregory **Bristol** Columbia

Florence Kowalchuk Edith G. Prague **East Hartford** Eileen C. Zadrozny **Enfield** Ronald R. Boulay Glastonbury Eileen C. Zadrozny Groton

Michelle Tetreault New Britain Ronald R. Boulay Alfred A. Gregory

Other Town in CT Richard C. Carpenter Yvonne R. Furth **Portland** Thomas R. Nash Rocky Hill Mariusz Maltowski Simsbury Linda Halligan Bernard Halligan, Jr.

Charlotte M Caisse Windsor Linda M. Anderson Mary Jane C. Carpenter Linda Halligan Bernard Halligan, Jr. **OUT OF STATE** 

Ronald R. Boulay Zephyrhills, FL Dorothy S. Floyd Lake Placid, FL Yvonne R. Furth Gloucester, MA

Denotes name listing only. Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

## **OBITUARIES**

# Anderson, Linda M. (Chassie)



Linda M. (Chassie) Anderson, 73, of Windsor, beloved wife of 40 years to Gary Anderson, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 13, 2021, at her home with her family by her side. Linda was born on November 22, 1948, in Caribou, ME, daughter to the late Edwin and Loretta (Lagasse) Chassie. As a young girl, Linda grew up with her family in Caribou.

There, she spent her childhood helping her family with the farm and picking potatoes on local farms. As she grew older, Linda and her family moved to Connecticut where she attended Hartford High School and graduated with the Class of 1966. She received her Associates degree from Tunxis Community College. Linda was employed at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford for many years as a Lab Technician and a phlebotomist in Windsor. Linda enjoyed spending time outdoors in her garden tending to her flowers, plants and vegetables. She also loved to spend time camping, dancing with her friends, family and going to concerts all over. She also frequently worked on projects in and around her home including her childrens, whether it was remodeling, painting or decorating. Linda looked forward to cooking and baking for her family and friends, creating delicious dishes to bring her family together. Most of all, Linda's kind and caring personality was there for anyone who needed her. She was always there for her children and grandchildren when called upon or when things were asked of her. Linda was a communicant of St. Joseph Church in the Poquonock section of Windsor for many years and was also a member of the Prayer Shawl Committee, the Social Action Committee and was the past chair of the Helping Hands Committee. Linda also volunteered her time with the Windsor Garden Club where she served as past Treasurer.

In addition to her husband, Linda is survived by her three children, Christopher Gagne of Manchester, Dana Gagne and his wife Shannon of Windsor and Stacie Ferolano and her husband Daniel of Granby; four siblings Gerald Chassie, Judy Chamberlain, Ronald Chassie and Duane Chassie; four grandchildren Isabella, Lilianna, Sophia and Christopher; her niece Lisa Cammilleri and her husband John, Sr. and their children John, Jr. and Devin; her nephew Craig Duprey and his wife Janice and their children Brenden and Presten; her sister-inlaw Leah Anderson; her "therapy" dog Sully as well as numerous nieces, nephews and extended family. Linda was predeceased by her parents; her son Michael; her daughter-in-law Kathie Gagne as well as two siblings Richard Chassie and twin sister Brenda Duprey.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, December 19, Calling hours will be held on Sunday, December 19, 2021, from 1-4 p.m. at the Carmon Windsor Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, December 20, 2021, beginning at 11 a.m. at St. Damien of Molokai Parish- St. Joseph Church, 1747 Poquonock Ave., (Rte 75) Windsor. Guests are asked to please go directly to the church. Burial with committal prayers will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, Windsor. Memorial donations may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, CT Chapter, 659 Tower Ave., 1st Floor, Hartford, CT 06112 or to the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook St., I-91 Tech Center, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. To leave an online message of condolence for her family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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# Barnat, Cecylia



Cecylia (Letniowska) Barnat, 79, of Berlin, died peacefully on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021. She was the beloved wife of the late Franciszek Barnat. Born and raised in Poland, Mrs. Barnat was a Berlin resident for most of her life and was a member of Sacred Heart Church, New Britain. She loved tending to her flower and veg-

etable gardens, but spending time with her grandchildren gave her the most joy. We will miss her kind and sweet ways and her generous

A devoted mother and grandmother, she leaves two sons and their wives, Mieczyslaw and Edyta Barnat, and Krzysztof and Lucyna Barnat, all of Berlin; and was a loving Babcia to her four grandchildren, Michael, John, Daniel and Anna Barnat. She also leaves her brothers and sister, Marian Letniowski, the late Czeslaw Letniowski, Eugeniusz Letniowski, and Stanislawa Rembisz, all in Poland, and many nieces and nephews. Her family would like to express its deepest appreciation to the staff of Msgr. Bojnowski Manor and the Fresenius Dialysis Center for the wonderful and compassionate care of Cecylia.

Her funeral service will begin at 8:45 am on Monday, Dec. 20, 2021, at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St., New Britain, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 9:30 am at Sacred Heart Church. She will be laid to rest beside Franciszek in Sacred Heart Cemetery, New Britain. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Sunday, Dec. 19, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Burritt Hill. To share your sorrow with her family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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# **Boulay, Ronald Robert**



Zephyrhills, FL, and the beloved husband of Francine (Cratty) Boulay died unexpectedly on December 11, . 2021. Ron was a gentle man and a gentleman who was loved by all whom he met. He was prédeceased by his parents Lawrence Boulay Sr. and Alice Boulay of Enfield, Ct., along with several relatives

and close friends. Ron and Fran were married after a love at first sight romance for more than 51 years. He was a musician from a very young age, a dedicated family man, a friend to many with whom he worked, and a member of Cha-Wi-Ma campground where he spent over 20 years and secured multiple life-long friendships. Together they raised their shining stars Glenn (married to Amy Tetreault) and Aprilyn (engaged to Kurt Liburd) both of

He was blessed with four amazing grandsons, Aaron (with significant other Brianna Leblanc), and Brendon Goulette, Trevor, and Zach Boulay. Ron had struggled for many years with life threatening side affects of diabetes and hoped that retirement life in FL would improve his health but, in the end, he died from a sub-dermal hematoma. Ron is also survived by his sister Joanne and her daughters of New Britain, his identical twin brother Don, and his family in Ma., Larry of Enfield, Ct., and Fran's loving extended family members along with his favorite aunt Juliette Corriveau of New Britain, many other relatives, and close friends. The family is grateful to the multitude of healthcare providers over the past ten years especially Dr. Peter Blume, at Yale, Dr. Nguyen at Advent Health Wound Center, Dr. Kadri, Dr. Futral of the VA., many home care providers, Advent Health ICU and Seasons Hospice of Tampa.

Health ICU and Seasons Hospice of Tampa. Celebration of life services will be held at a later date. Memorial donations are requested in lieu of flowers, etc. to provide continued Music Therapy and tender end of life care to: Seasons Hospice and Palliative 1408 N. Westshore Blvd. Suite 260 Tampa, FL 33607 or @Seasons.org, these were angels who provided music therapy, memorable music for Ron's homecoming, and support for our family during this tear-filled emotional journey for our dearest father and the love emotional journey for our dearest father and the love of our mom's life.

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# Carpenter, Richard Clark



Richard Clark Carpenter, of East Norwalk, was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, as well as an acclaimed railroad historian and cartographer and longtime execudirector tive Southwestern Regional Planning Agency. He was born in Wethersfield, where he graduated from Wethersfield High School in

1951. He died in March Of 2020, when the Covid pandemic prevented any memorial service from taking

Mr. Carpenter's wife of 61 years, Mary Jane Campbell Carpenter, died last week at her home in Windsor. The family will now hold a memorial mass for both of them Tuesday, Dec. 21, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in East Norwalk, where the couple were married in 1958. Mr. Carpenter is survived by his daughter Ellin (Matthew) Smith of Windsor; son John (Mary) of Nashville; grandchildren Diana Rose Smith, and Sally and Patrick Carpenter; sister Marion Lang of West Hartford, sister-in-law (Anne) of West Bloomfield, as well as many nieces and nephews, and grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

He is preceded in death by his beloved daughter, Jane Elizabeth; and his parents, Katherine and Phillip; and his brother Phillip.

You can read a full obituary for Mr. Carpenter at www.magnerfuneralhome.com/obituary/ RichardDick-Carpenter

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# Caisse, Charlotte M



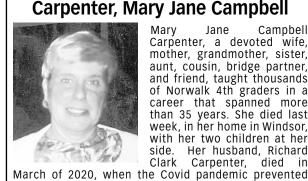
Charlotte M. Caisse, 95, of Suffield, beloved wife of the late Paul G. Caisse passed away on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 surrounded by her loving family. Born April 18, 1926 in Bloomfield, daughter of the late Charles and Olga (Besol) Derench. Charlotte lived in the Hartford area all

her life, living in Bloomfield, Hartford, and Windsor before moving to Suffield 50 years ago. She graduated from Hartford High School. Before retiring in 2008, Charlotte was employed 36 years at Baker's Nursery. Charlotte was highly active in life, she enjoyed swimming, water skiing, ballroom dancing, gardening, playing the piano, traveling. In her later years, she loved playing the slot machines at the casino, jigsaw puzzles, bird watching. She was an avid fan of both the Boston Room Stand UCONN Basketball, her greatest joy came from attending all her grandchildren's events over the years. She is survived by three children, Gregory Caisse and his wife, Candice of Granby, Cheryl Podgorski and her husband, David of Suffield, Paula McClellan and her husband, David McClellan, Jr. of Agawam, MA; a brother, George Derench of Bloomfield; six grandchildren; four great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by two children, Charlene Confrey, and Gary Caisse: and several siblings. Her family will receive friends on Sunday, December 19, 2021 from 3-5 PM at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East St. N. (Rt. 159), Suffield. The family requests that you wear masks. Funeral service and burial will be private and at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers please make donations to American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22478, Oklahoma City, OK 73123 or to Suffield Land Conservancy, P.O. Box 421, Suffield, CT 06078. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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# **OBITUARIES**



Mary Carpenter, a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, bridge partner, and friend, taught thousands of Norwalk 4th graders in a career that spanned more

than 35 years. She died last week, in her home in Windsor, with her two children at her side. Her husband, Richard

any kind of memorial service. A Mass honoring both of them will be held Tuesday, Dec. 21, at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in East Norwalk, where they were mar-ried in 1958. She is survived by her daughter Ellin (Matt) Smith, of Windsor; her son John (Mary) Carpenter, of Nashville; grandchildren Diana Rose Smith, of Austin, Texas: Patrick Campbell Carpenter, of Boston; and Sally Clare Carpenter, a student at Boston College; and her sister, Sally Connecticut. Campbell Woodhall, of Bethlehem,

Visitation will be held Monday, Dec. 20, from 3-5 PM at Magner Funeral Home, 12 Mott Ave., Norwalk. A Funeral Mass will be held Tuesday, Dec. 21, 11:30 AM at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in East Norwalk. For a full obituary, directions or to leave an online condolence, please go to www.magnerfuneralhome.com/obituary/ Mary-Carpenter

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# Floyd, Dorothy S.



Dorothy S. Floyd of Lake Placid, FL passed away on December 2, 2021 peacefully in her sleep at age 100. For a full obituary go https://obituaries.nationalcremation. to com/obituaries.

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## Furth, Yvonne R. (Reese)



Yvonne R. (Reese) Furth, 97, died December 12, 2021 at home surrounded by loved ones. She was the wife of the late Frank Furth, whom she married in 1945. She was born in Wellsboro,

PA, on May 13, 1924, to Floyd and Edna (Bowen) Reese. She grew up in Elmira, NY, but had very fond memories of spending summers on her grandparents' farm in Wellsboro. She graduated from

University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music and belonged to the Sigma Alpha Iota music sorority. She had a rewarding career teaching music in elementary schools in Rochester, NY, Dewitt, NY, and Evansville, IN. She enjoyed coming up with new and interesting ideas to make her music classroom fun.

She and Frank enjoyed traveling throughout their lifetime. Camper trips across the U.S. and Canada, tours in Europe and Japan, and driving around New Zealand were highlights. The most special times together were in southern Optario, in a small cabin that they loved in southern Ontario, in a small cabin that they loved

She was a lifelong bridge player wherever she lived. She was always working on a new craft and was an expert seamstress.

She and Frank lived in several different places throughout their lifetime together including upstate NY, Indiana and Killingworth, CT. In Killingworth she was involved in The First Congregational Church of Madison, The Madison Historical Society, and the Madison Winter Club.

She will be missed by all that knew her well.
Surviving her is son Thomas and wife Normanda;
three daughters: Priscilla and husband Lothar, Victoria, Jessica and husband Vincent; grandchildren Alexander, Andrew, Molly and husband Todd, Zachariah and wife Kristi, Hannah, Rachel, Thomas, Connor and Christopher. She also has one great grandson. Also surviving her are her sister-in-law Marge, former daughter-in-law Linda and her beloved nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her brother Winfield and son-in-law David.

Her funeral services will be held privately at a later date. Donations may be made to the Music Ministry of the First Congregational Church of Madison, CT, 26 Meetinghouse Lane, Madison, CT 06443, (203)-245-2739, mainoffice@fccmadison.org or to the Open-Door Food Pantry. 28 Emerson Ave, Gloucester, MA 01930.

Arrangements by the Campbell Funeral Home, 61 Middle Street, Gloucester, MA. Condolences at www. campbellfuneral.com

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## **OBITUARIES**

# **Gregory, Alfred A.**



Alfred A. Gregory, 94, WWII Veteran

Alfred A. Gregory, passed away on November 26, 2021, surrounded by his family. He lived with his son Bruce and his wife Diane in Suwanee, GA. Prior to living with them, Alfred resided in Berlin, CT He was the son of the late Alfred I. and Theresa (Nesta) Gregory and was born in New



He attended local schools in New Britain graduating from New Britain Senior High School, Class of 1944. Al enlisted in the U.S. Navy after graduation. In World War II he served in the Asiatic Pacific Theater in the Amphibious Force on the USS Hanover. Achieving the rank of Petty Officer, Yeoman 3rd Class, he transferred to the Commander Service Division 107, U.S. Naval Base Yokosuka, Japan.

After serving his country Al attended Ferris State Institute in Big Rapids, MI. While in school he married Jean Goulet of New Britain in 1950. Jean worked as the Secretary to the Dean of Men at Ferris Institute while Al earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy. The wives of Veterans at the school received the degree known as PhT (pushing husband through). Dad was always grateful to mom for her support. He was a member of Omega Tau Omega Fraternity while attending Ferris.

Alfred worked as a Retail Pharmacist, owning and operating Nesta's Pharmacy, a neighborhood Drug Store in New Britain. Al also attended Central Connecticut State College earning his teaching credentials. taught in his hometown at St. Francis Jr. High. He later taught at John F. Kennedy Jr. High in Southington until his retirement in 1990, all while still working part-time as a pharmacist

Al was a founding & charter member of the Berlin VFW Post 10732. He served as Junior & Senior Vice Commander, Quartermaster (Treasurer) for seventeen vears, and was also Trustee. Al was also a member of the Berlin American Legion Post 68, The Connecticut Pharmaceutical Association serving as the Association Secretary, and was a past member of the Knights of Columbus in New Britain. He was also a past member of the Veterans Commission in Berlin, CT. for thirteen

Al and Jean were married sixty-four years prior to Jean's passing in October 2014. He is

survived by his three children and their spouses, Robert and Dianne Gregory of Weston, Florida, Bruce and Diane Gregory of Suwanee, Georgia, and Laurie and Chet Matczak of Tariffville, Connecticut. He is also and Chet Matczak of Tariffville, Connecticut. He is also survived by his grandchildren Christopher Gregory and his fiance Angelina Cabrera and her daughter Evolet of Sugar Hill, Georgia, and Michael Gregory of Weston, Florida. Neighbors Aneta and Darren Andros and Alisa, Rick, and Gianna Uba all of Berlin, Connecticut were also considered family. He is also known as Grandpa to Maddia and Abbay Andros Maddie and Abbey Andros

A memorial service with full Military Honors will be held in the Spring at the convenience of his family. A future notice will be given as to the date and time of the services.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Alfred's memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN. 38105, or to St. Paul Church 479 Alling St., Kensington, CT. 06037

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# Halligan, Bernard Jr.



Bernard F. Halligan, Jr. 59, of the Weatogue section of Simsbury, died Sunday, Born in Hartford, son of the late Bernard F. and Teresa (Mason) Halligan, Sr. He was raised in Windsor and graduated from Windsor High School. earned his BA from University of Connecticut. Bernie spent his career in the Insurance

Industry. He leaves his daughters Paige E. Halligan and Samantha N. Halligan; his sisters Susan Jameson and her husband Kenneth of East Granby, and Patricia A. Halligan of Annville, KY; and six nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his sister Jane L. Halligan and his wife Linda (Habermeier) Halligan

Bernie ('Chip') was a goofy, family-loving prankster. He was always up for a good time with friends and family. He loved to golf with his buddies and of course his Dunkin Donuts coffee. He enjoyed biking, walks, and spending time with his two daughters.

A visitation for family and friends will be held Sunday, December 19th from 4:00-6:00p at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor, CT. The funeral and burial will be private. Donations in his memory may be made to Simsbury Public Library, 725 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070. To leave condolences online, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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# Halligan, Linda (Habermeier)



Linda T. Halligan, 57, of the Weatogue section of Simsbury, died Sunday, December 12 2021. Born in Hartford, daughter of Eddie Habermeier of Broad Brook and Theresa Habermeier Bloomfield. She was raised in Windsor and graduated from Windsor High School. She earned her BA from University of Connecticut and had been

employed for many years by Lebon Press. Besides her father and mother, Linda leaves her daughters Paige E. Halligan and Samantha N. Halligan; a sister Wendy H. Dickman and her husband Christopher of Portland; and a brother Wayne J. Habermeier and his wife Stacey of Sturbridge, MA; and six nieces and nephews. Her husband Bernard F. Halligan, Jr. died earlier on Sunday.

Linda was a loving mother, daughter, sister, and friend to her entire family. She was a very thoughtful, generous, and bubbly individual. She had an eye for design, a talent for tennis, and loved to host every event under the sun. Linda had a big heart for her family and cared deeply for them.

A visitation for family and friends will be held Sunday, December 19th from 4:00-6:00p at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Avenue, Windsor, CT. The funeral and burial will be private. Donations in her memory may be made to the Humane Society, 701 Russell Road Newington, CT 06111.

To leave condolences online, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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# Kowalchuk, Florence (Rallis)



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Florence (Rallis) Kowalchuk, 98, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 The Gables, at Farmington, CT. To view obituary, Florence's full please visit www.dupontfuneralhome.com

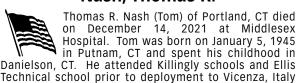
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## Maltowski, Mariusz

Mariusz Maltowski, 68, of Rocky Hill, passed away on Sunday (December 12, 2021) at Apple Rehab in Rocky Hill. He was born in Poland, the son of the late Jerzy and Elzbieta (Sczepanski) Maltowski. He is survived by his loving wife, Aleksandra (Dzikowski) Maltowski. by his loving wife, Aleksandra (DZIKOWSKI) Maltowski. He also leaves his family and friends both here in the states as well as in Poland. Although we are sad he is no longer here with us, we rejoice in knowing he is at peace and resting in the blessed arms of the Lord. A funeral service will be held on Monday (December 20, 2021) at 11 AM in the Rose Hill Funeral Home, 580 Elm St. Rocky Hill. Burial will follow in Rose Hill Memorial Park, Rocky Hill. Please share online expressions of

sympathy, memories, or photo tributes at www.rose-Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

# Nash, Thomas R.



where he served with the 5th Battalion 30th Artillery. He was honorably discharged there as a Specialist 5 Tom leaves behind his wife Gloria, two stepsons, David

Wallengren (Cheryl) of Portland, their children Ethan and Sydney and also Jason Wallengren (Kimberly) of New Preston, CT and their children Bellamy and Leiden. He leaves two grandsons Tiziano and Leonardo Silvestrelli and son-in-law of Arezzo, Italy and his niece Ashley O'Shea of Lalouret-Laffiteau, France.

Tom was predeceased by his parents Albert and Irene Nash, a sister Beverly A. O'Shea and a daughter AnnaMaria Nash.

Tom earned his Associate's degree from Manchester Community College and a Bachelor's degree from Eastern Connecticut State University.

Tom began his professional career with the Hartford CT police department where he served in various capacities for nearly nine years. He then became em-ployed as Vice President and Director of Security for the former Society for Savings Bank in Hartford for 17 years with subsequent employment with First Security Services Corporation, Citi Bank, CyberSource, People's United Bank, Naugatuck Savings Bank and American

Eagle Credit Union, retiring in 2012.

Over the course of his career, Tom served as president of the Connecticut Loss Prevention Association, president of the Connecticut Banker's Reward Association and president of the Connecticut Chapter of the International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators (IAFCI). He also served on the Board of Directors of the IAFCI and the training committee. He was the recipient of numerous awards recognizing his dedication and service including the 2013 IAFCI Member of the Year and the Connecticut Chapter's 2018 Founder's Award. He was voted life membership in the IAFCI and has been a member since 1989

In retirement Tom's passion for learning led him to becoming a substitute teacher at Portland Secondary schools where he enjoyed being with the students and faculty.

ors at the State Veterans Cemetery, 317 Bow Lane in Middletown, CT on Tuesday, December 21st at 10 a.m. The Portland Memorial Funeral Home, 231 Main St., Portland, is in charge of arrangements.

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# **Prague, Edith G**



PARADE

MARSHAL

Edith Gelt Prague passed away surrounded by love on the morning of December 16,

Massachusetts, Edith was fortunate to live a life she loved, filled with family, friends, work and making a difference in this world. We were all so blessed to know her and to love her.

When Edith's father died when she was a young girl, she worked alongside her mother and brother in the family grocery store and there, she also learned the value of helping those in need as her mother delivered baskets of food to people during the Depression – early lessons that stayed with her forever, stories she could recount so clearly.

Edith was a teacher, a medical social worker, a Representative in the Connecticut House of Representatives (1982-1990), a State Senator from 1995-2013 (she loved this role so much and took tremendous pride in her work) and Connecticut Commissioner on Aging. She represented the people in her districts with tenacity and honesty and she listened to anyone who needed to be heard or needed help in life. She fought to protect the rights of people to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect and never gave up on a cause she believed in. Edith called herself "a social worker with power." Of all the awards Edith earned, the real rewards came from individuals who wrote, called or stopped her in public to thank her, to tell her how she had helped them in their lives.

Family mattered most to Edith. The best mother and grandmother any child could dream of, Edith will forever a part of her children's souls: daughters Shelley Prague, Benay Smith and Joanne Prague Doyle (Tom Doyle) and grandchildren Nathan, Matthew, Sam, Josh, Chris, Brian, Katie, Tim and Michael. She was predeceased by her husband, Frank and daughter, Susan as well as her brother George with whom she shared a very special bond and her sister, Beatrice.

What her children will remember is a mother's protective love and the lessons instilled in us to always, when we can, help others, to stand up and speak out and to live fully and honestly.

Services to pay tribute to Edith will be held on Sunday, December 19, 2021 at 11:00 at Temple B'nai Israel, 383 Jackson St., Willimantic, CT. Guests must be fully vaccinated and must please wear a mask. Seating is limited due to CDC Protocols. Burial will follow the service at Temple B'nai Israel Cemetery located at the junction of CT Route 31 and CT Route 32 in Mansfield, Connecticut.

To continue her work to help those in need and those who serve, please honor Edith with a donation to Generations Family Health Center, 40 Mansfield Avenue, Willimantic, CT 06226 to the Attention of Allison Heneghan, The Center for Medicare Advocacy at 11 Ledgebrook Dr., Mansfield, CT 06250 or The Columbia Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 26 Columbia, CT

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# **Tetreault, Michelle**



After a strong fight against metastatic breast cancer, Michelle (Dupuis) Tetreault, 61, of Groton, CT passed away peacefully on Dec. 13th surrounded by her family. Michelle was born on June 20, 1960 in South Hadley, MA. After graduating from South Hadley High School in 1978, she went on to study social work at North Adam's State

College. After marrying Kerry in 1983, she had two daughters that she loved fiercely. In Michelle's own words "my daughters were the best thing I ever did". Michelle enjoyed vacationing on Cape Cod, watching the Patriots (before Tom Brady left), and long walks on the beach, especially in the winter. Some of her favorite things were cape cod potato chips, lobster dinners, oysters, and spending time with her granddogs Oakley and Rusty. She fought hard to be able to dance with her daughter at her wedding this fall. She recently retired from Electric Boat in Groton, CT where she made countless friendships. She was a force to be reckoned with, she left a lasting impression on everyone she met. We will never be able to fill the space left behind by her. Michelle was predeceased by her father Richard Dupuis of Chicopee, MA. She is survived by her mother Barbara (LeGrand) Yates, her brother Richard Dupuis of Chicopee, MA; her daughters Nicole Tetreault of Swampscott, MA, and Brianna (William) Borg, of East Hampton, CT; their father Kerry Tetreault of East Haddam, CT; and countless family members. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute or METAvivor in Michelle's honor. The funeral will be Monday December 20th starting with visiting hours from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at The O'Brien Family Funeral Home 33 Lamb St., South Hadley followed by a funeral mass at St. Patrick's Church, 30 Main St., South Hadley, MA at 11:30 am. Burial to follow in Precious Blood Cemetery. For more information or to make online condolences please go to obrienfamilyfh.com. by her. Michelle was predeceased by her father Richard to obrienfamilyfh.com.

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# Zadrozny, Eileen C. (Dolan)



Eileen C. (Dolan) Zadrozny, 91, of East Hartford, loving wife of 65 years of the late John B. Zadrozny, journeyed home to join her beloved husband in heaven on Monday, December 13, 2021. Born in the Bronx, NY on September 11, 1930, the daughter of the late Edward and Margaret (McManus) Dolan, she was a 71 year resi-dent of East Hartford. A loyal Irish catholic, Eileen received

her sacraments at St. John Chrysostom's Church in the Bronx NY and was a long time Church in the Bronx NY and was a long time parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Church in East Hartford. A hard worker, Eileen spent years working for Pratt and Whitney and also as a Cashier at Andy's Foodtown, both in East Hartford, but the job she took most pride in was raising her four boys. In her later years, Eileen continued to be active and was a daily presence in her son's local pizza restaurant (Buck's Corner Pizza in South Glastonbury). She enjoyed greeting and conversing with customers, waiting tables, but most importantly, the special time she spent there with her husband, son John, grandson Johnny, and dear friends. Eileen made it her mission to make those around her happy, and she made no one make those around her happy, and she made no one happier than her husband John. She enjoyed her weekly dates with him to local casinos for a meal, a show, or a day of playing the slots. The two were inseparable. Eileen was a member and Senior Regent of the Loyal Order of the Moose, Lodge #1477 of East Hartford as well as a member of the American Folk Music Association. Proud of her Irish heritage, Eileen was an avid collector of Irish memorabilia and anything green. However, of all the activities she enjoyed, none gave her and her husband more pleasure than those involving their grandchildren. For many years Eileen, alongside her late husband, took great joy in following the sports careers of her grandson Johnny and granddaughters Eileen (her namesake) and Abbie. She held an especially strong relationship with her grandson Johnny who was a constant presence at her home.

Bernard Dolan as well as her sister, Margaret Lai. Eileen is survived by her four sons, Bernard J. "Ben" Zadrozny and his wife, Patricia, of Bristol, John E. Zadrozny and his wife, Susan, of Glastonbury, Brian P. Zadrozny and his wife, April, of Coventry, Mark A. Zadrozny of Coventry; twelve special grandchildren, Brian, Adam, Corey, Blaize, Zachariah, Eileen, Abbie, Alexandra, Jacleen, Mark, Kevin, and Johnny and 22 great-grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, former co-workers, and dear friends.

Besides her parents and beloved husband John, Eileen

was predeceased by her two brothers Edward and

Funeral service will be Tuesday (December 21, 2021) at 10 am from the D'Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford with a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at 11 am at Our Lady of Peace Church of St. Edmund Campion Parish, 370 May Road, East Hartford. Burial will follow at Silver Lane Cemetery, East Hartford. Relatives and friends may call at the funeral home chapel on Monday (December 20, 2021) from 4 - 6 pm. Everyone is asked to please wear a facemask at the funeral home chapel and at the church. For on-line expressions of sympathy to the family, please visit www.desopoeh.com.



Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

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# CONNECTICUT

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# Digital vaccination card now available

Lamont says voluntary passport will help people 'feel safe' when heading to restaurants, stores

By Mark Pazniokas CT Mirror

Thursday.

A digital COVID-19 vaccination card now available from the state Department of Public Health will not lead to a mandatory vaccine passport, Gov. Ned Lamont said

Theaters, sports tournaments and some colleges now require patrons and visitors to show proof of vaccination, but the governor said he is adamantly opposed to a state mandate requiring anyone to show

a paper or digital vaccination card.

"I'm not requiring anything. I'm not mandating anything. I'm giving stores and restaurants and businesses one more tool they need to make their employees and their customers feel safe. That's the best thing you can do for business," Lamont said.

"Mandates, sometimes you just create a lot of pushback," said Lamont, who notes Connecticut's vaccination rate is high. "Right now, we've got the wind to our back in terms of people doing the right thing."

The digital card, which will be formally launched next week, may be downloaded from the state Department of Public Health at https://ctwiz.dph.ct.gov/ctwiz\_ public/Application/PublicPortal.

Connecticut, along with the rest of New England and the nation, is coping with a COVID-19 surge that is filling up hospitals and raising concern families come together for the approaching holidays. The new COVID-19 omicron variant is highly transmissible and expected to soon be pervasive here.

A soft launch of the digital vaccination card has allowed testing of the system before next week's kickoff. It is a feature that Envision Technology Partners, the vendor that operates the DPH vaccination site and has contracted with the state since 2019, is adding to its software at no additional cost to the state, said Josh Geballe, the state's chief operating officer.

When you roll it out, you want to

Turn to Card, Page 2



This is an example of Connecticut's new digital vaccination card. The voluntary card can be downloaded and stored in a cellphone. **CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH** 



A rendering of proposed apartments for Evergreen Walk in South Windsor. CONTINENTAL PROPERTIES

**SOUTH WINDSOR** 

# 165 apartments proposed for Evergreen Walk

Planning and Zoning Commission approves Shake Shack, preschool

By Jesse Leavenworth Hartford Courant

SOUTH WINDSOR — A 165-unit apartment complex is proposed for Evergreen Walk in South Windsor, while a Shake Shack restaurant and a new location for a nationwide private preschool were approved for the mixed use development near the Manchester border.

The public hearing on the proposed apartments was continued to the Jan. 11 planning and zoning commission meeting. The commission on Tuesday approved a 3,200-square-foot Shake Shack and renovation of 12,819 square feet of existing space for The Goddard School, a private early childhood education company, Town Planner Michele Lipe said.

The commission must approve a change to the current cap of 200 apartments (the existing Tempo development) at Evergreen Walk.

Commission members and the developer, Continental Properties, agreed that 10% of the new apartments would be made affordable to persons or families earning 80% or less of the area median income as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

According to HUD, for the Hartford area, 80% of median income for a family of three would be \$75,120, and the monthly rent limit for a one-bedroom apartment at 80% of median

income would be \$1,566. The apartment buildings would be constructed on about 8.5 acres, with 83 one-bedroom and 82 two-bedroom units. Also proposed is an outdoor heated pool, putting green, fire pit and clubhouse with multi-purpose room and fitness center.

Turn to Planning, Page 2

# Judge says attorney for Jones broke rules

Lawyer could face ethics reprimand in Newtown case

Associated Press

A Connecticut judge on Wednesday determined a lawyer for Infowars host Alex Jones broke attorney conduct rules during the deposition of a witness, as part of a defamation lawsuit against Jones for calling the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting a hoax.

Judge Barbara Bellis in Waterbury said

during a court hearing that she was "leaning toward" reprimanding Hartford lawyer Jay Wolman, but did not immediately impose sanctions. She said she would issue a written ruling later. Wolman denied he broke ethics rules.

Relatives of some of the Wolman 20 children and six educators killed in the 2012 school shooting are suing Jones and his companies, including Austin, Texas-

based Infowars, saying they've been subjected to harassment and death threats from Jones' followers because of the hoax

conspiracy pushed on his show. Bellis found Jones liable for damages to the families last month, and a trial on how much the damages should be is scheduled

for next August. At issue on Wednesday was Wolman's questioning of Jones' former employee Robert Jacobson during a deposition in September and whether he badgered and intimidated Jacobson in a failed attempt to get Jacobson to search email on his phone

for the phrase "Sandy Hook." Wolman's lawyer, Wesley Horton, argued that while Wolman was repetitive in his questioning, it was not misconduct.

Brian Staines, the state's chief disciplinary counsel for lawyer misconduct cases, told the judge he believed Wolman broke ethics rules.

Bellis agreed with Staines.

"There is such a thing as pushing the envelope and aggressive lawyering," the judge said. "And then there is misconduct that crosses the line where counsel violates their professional obligations under the rules, and I do find by clear and convincing evidence that that is what we have here.'

ization zones and the NAACP. In addition, the bank will work with organizations that

serve the African American, Latinx, West Indian and Jamaican communities in Hart-

The partnership is expected to launch in the spring and will be administered out of

Liberty's Hartford loan production office

In Hartford, only about 20% of hous-

ing units are owner-occupied, compared

with nearly 60% in Hartford County overall, Liberty said, citing statistics from The

Partnership for Strong Communities, a nonprofit housing advocacy group.

In the broader, Hartford metro area,

only about 15% of housing units in low- or

moderate-income tracts were owner occu-

at 2074 Park St.

# Manufacturing, construction led state's November increase in jobs

**By Stephen Singer** Hartford Courant

Employers in Connecticut added 5,600 jobs in November, a broad-based increase with highly sought manufacturing and construction jobs posting the biggest gains, the state Department of Labor reported

The unemployment rate fell 0.4%, to 6%, still substantially higher than the U.S. rate

More jobs have been added in each month this year, at an average pace of 4,855, as the labor force continues to recover from the steep employment drop in 2020 as business were ordered shut to limit exposure to COVID-19.

Nine of 10 sectors posted job gains and economists revised upward the October

increase by 1,800, to 7,100. Chris DiPentima, president of the Connecticut Business & Industry Association, said manufacturing in the state has recovered more than half the jobs lost during the pandemic. Manufacturers "are feeling the brunt of the labor shortage, an



A welder at the Columbia Manufacturing plant in Columbia in a December 2019 photo. Manufacturers hired 1,700 workers in November, the state Department of Labor reported Thursday. COURANT FILE PHOTO

issue that's compounded by supply chain bottlenecks and inflation," he said.

"We're all hiring," said Jamison Scott, a Woodbridge manufacturer. "Every manufacturer I know has job openings. It's finding the skills that's been challenging."

A labor shortage is getting worse, Scott Commercial aviation, a major manufacturing sector in Connecticut, is improv-

ing as vaccinations lead to an increase in Turn to Jobs, Page 2

# City of Hartford, Liberty Bank link for homebuying initiative

Partnership forged to promote more affordable mortgages

By Kenneth R. Gosselin Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — The city of Hartford's efforts to expand homeownership are getting a boost in a new partnership with Middletown-based Liberty Bank that seeks to bring more affordable mortgages to homebuyers in the city.

The mortgages are part of Liberty's "Good Neighbor Plus" lending program that targets homebuying in low- to moderate-income neighborhoods in Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Manchester, and Windsor.

The mortgages knock half a percentage point off borrowing rates; provide for 3% down payments with Liberty paying the mortgage insurance that is generally required for loans with less than 20% down; a 640 minimum credit score; and a \$2,500 rebate to offset closing costs.

Homebuyers can borrow up to \$500,000

and there are no income limits. The twist in Hartford is the bank will work with City Treasurer Adam Cloud in

an outreach to churches and community

organizations such the Urban League of

Greater Hartford, neighborhood revital-

pied, the bank said. The highest concentration was in middle- and upper-income areas.

The bank said the program could have significant reach because 93% of census tracts in Hartford are classified as low- to moderate-income. I. Charles Mathews, the city's director

of development services, said Thursday the Liberty program will build on down payment assistance programs through lenders that are already available to buyers in Hartford.

Turn to Mortgages, Page 2

# Foes rise against return of former candidate's law license

Recommendation to restore Brinson's license, suspended after his imprisonment for stock swindle scheme, under fire

By Edmund H. Mahony Hartford Courant

The state office that disciplines lawyers is opposing a recommendation to restore former Hartford City Council candidate Corey Brinson's law license, which was suspended when he was convicted and imprisoned for helping a gang of stock swindlers steal millions of dollars from retirees.

The state Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel has asked a judge to reject a 3-1 recommendation from a local committee of state lawyers that concluded Brinson should be allowed to practice law again because his effort at rehabilitation during and after his threeyear prison sentence shows he "possesses the good moral character and fitness to practice law."

The Judicial Branch's disciplinary counsel, acting on behalf of the Statewide Grievance Committee, disagreed in a court filing this week, asserting that Brinson "has clearly failed to meet his burden to demonstrate present fitness and moral character to practice law. Accordingly, the Committee respectfully requests that the Court reject the recommendation and deny the applica-

Brinson is continuing to press his application for reinstatement, arguing he has been barred from the practice of law for nearly five years, which is sufficient punishment. He argues that his spotless prison record combined with his his post-release volunteer work and continuing education are evidence of his rehabilitation. A panel of three

Superior Court judges ultimately will decide when, if or under what circumstances Brinson's law license was restored.

Brinson's attempt to return to law practice is is proceeding in a fashion similar to that of Bridgeport Mayor Joseph P. Ganim. In both cases, local committees of lawyers recommended reinstatement. In Ganim's case, the panel of three judges overruled the local committee, saying he failed to show sufficient remorse after the federal corruption conviction that cost him his



Brinson

1990s. The sole vote against Brinson among the local committee of lawyers was from an attorney who said reinstatement was undeserved for a variety of reasons, among them Brinson's offense having been "too egregious" and his acceptance of responsibility incomplete and character-

tions and excuses.' Brinson was an unsuccessful candidate for the Hartford City Council in 2019 after his release from prison. He was convicted of

ized by "too many qualifica-

a fraud-related charge for using his law office trust fund to launder money for stock manipulators organized by Christian Meissenn of Suffield, who swindled tens of millions of dollars, much of it from retirees, by fraudulently inflating the value of worthless penny stocks.

Meissenn funneled about \$3 million derived from fraudulent sales through Brinson's law firm account. Brinson collected about \$200,000 for the service and distributed the money back to Meissenn and his associates. Brinson also wrote, or arranged for others to write, attorney letters attesting to the soundness of fraudulent stock offerings to potential investors.

Some of the expenses covered by distributions from the Brinson trust account included \$12,100 in tuition payments for one of Meissenn's children, about \$519,000 in cash withdrawals and the investment of \$22,000 into a business called Classic Vehicle, which he and Meissenn owned. Brinson has acknowledged, according to a report by the panel of lawyers, that Classic Vehicle was a sham business created to give Meissenn access to a bank account. Meissenn was prohibited from opening bank accounts under the terms of his previous disbarment from the securities industry for fraud.

Brinson has said he was naïve and manipulated by Meissenn at first, but continued to participate in the conspiracy after realizing he was involved in a fraud.

# 21 charged in alleged drug ring

Officials say operation reached to Puerto Rico

**Associated Press** 

Drug charges have been filed against 21 people accused of running a cocaine and fentanyl ring that spanned Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Maine and Puerto Rico, Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel Mendell's office said Wednesday.

Authorities say the operation was based in Lawrence, Massachusetts, and sold drugs in retail and allegedly wholesale quantities, using couriers and stash houses to store and distribute drugs.

Some alleged members are accused of regularly traveling to Puerto Rico to buy cocaine and then mailing it to addresses in New York, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. One member was a corrections officer in Middleton, Massachusetts, and is accused of attempting to smuggle fentanyl, cocaine and Suboxone into a correctional facility.

In total, authorities say they seized 10.5 kilograms of cocaine, 650 grams of suspected fentanyl and more than

\$200,000 in drug proceeds. Nineteen suspected members of the ring were arrested Wednesday and face charges including conspiracy to distribute fentanyl, cocaine and other controlled substances. Another alleged member was arrested on a single count of possession with intent to distribute cocaine, and another member facing charges remains at large, prosecutors

The conspiracy charge carries a minimum prison sentence of three years and

According to charging documents, law enforcement officials began investigating the drug ring in May 2020 and intercepted communications detailing plans to distribute cocaine and fentanyl. The investigation was part of a federal program that helps multiple agencies work together to stop drug trafficking.

# Mortgages

from Page 1

"There's no secret that homeownership adds stabilization to the city, you build stronger families with homeownership, wealth with homeownership," Mathews said.

Not everyone can afford to buy a home, but the hope is to keep as many people as possible moving in that direction, Mathews said.

Mathews said he hoped other banks and financial institutions would follow Liberty's lead.

The partnership also includes the Connecticut Attorneys Title Insurance Co., which will offer discounted rates on professional fees and title insurance.

"This new partnership with the city of Hartford and CATIC shows what can happen when there is strong collaboration between public and private partners who share a common goal of helping individuals and families realize affordable homeownership, especially for those who have chosen to make Hartford their home," David W. Glidden, Liberty's president and chief executive, said, in a release.

Cloud, in a release, said by reaching out into the community, the program could "be impactful for Hartford, city residents and our local economy for many years to

A Liberty spokesman said the partnership is not a result of a settlement in 2019 with the Connecticut Fair Housing Center over racial bias in lending practices. In the settlement, in which Liberty denied any wrongdoing, Liberty agreed to increase its mortgage lending in low- and moderate-income communities.

Kenneth R. Gosselin can be reached at kgosselin@courant.com.



A man presents his "green passport," proof that he is vaccinated against the coronavirus, on Feb. 23, opening night at the Khan Theater for a performance for which all guests were required to show proof of vaccination or full recovery from the virus, in Jerusalem. MAYA ALLERUZZO/AP

# Card

from Page 1

get it right. We're taking privacy very seriously. That's part of what this process is about," Lamont said. "I think we'll be ready to go in a week or so but depends on the final

"If you want people going back to the restaurants, they've got to feel safe," Lamont said. "One way you can make them feel safe is they know you're taking safety protocols really seriously. One way to make them feel safe is when you go into a restaurant and sit down, probably the person next to you, you feel confident has been vaccinated.'

Lamont and his top aides have repeatedly assured the restaurant industry it will not follow the lead of New York City or Chicago, where vaccination proof is required to dine in a restaurant.

"Everything they are developing with that app is going to be opt in," said Scott Dolch, the executive director of the Connecticut Restaurant Association. "I don't think my members are going to use it."

Currently, he said, he is aware of only two members that ask for vaccination proof, both have a nightclub vibe with dancing. The owners have decided that vaccination proof in their establishments encourages patronage, but they are an exception, he said

Dolch said he regularly hears from concerned members who have heard rumors that a vaccine passport will be necessary for patrons, but he has been assured by the Lamont administration that no mandates or restrictions are coming.

The digital vaccination card will be a convenience, said Dolch, who already has downloaded a QR code of his COVID vaccinations and his son's into his Apple wallet. His son frequently plays in hockey tournaments that require vaccination proof.

'I think people are making more out of that than they should be, calling it a passport," Dolch said.

House Minority Leader Vincent J. Candelora, R-North Branford, has called for an informational hearing on the card, saying he wants assurances it cannot be used to deny essential services to the unvaccinated or collect data.

"Is government now facilitating a new method of providing businesses the ability to discriminate against people based on vaccination status?" Candelora asked, though he conceded businesses were disinclined to turn away patrons.

"You could pose the same question about the paper vaccine card," said Geballe, the state's chief operating officer and commissioner of administrative services. "It's just a digital version of that paper vaccine card that's more secure and more convenient."

Candelora said he fears that digitizing the vaccination cards would allow the state and a third-party vendor to track people.

"I fundamentally have a problem with this and where we're going," Candelora said. "And now we're digitizing it. And now we're going to use a third party vendor that collects this data that now knows what shops and what places we've been to based on scan-

Geballe said if someone's digital card is scanned at a theater, that information is not collected by the state or its vendor. He compared the scanners to those used to validate electronic tickets allowing entrance to sports or theater venues.

If the ticket or card is legitimate, the scanner flashes green.

"It's a verifier app that scans it," Geballe said. "It's not collecting the data. It's just ... giving a thumbs up or a thumbs down on is this person fully vaccinated?"

The Bushnell in Hartford, Infinity Theater in Hartford and Norfolk, and many other live-performance venues require masks and proof of vaccination or recent testing for admission. Both are required by all Broad-

The availability of the digital vaccination card in Connecticut will not come with a requirement it be used, Lamont said.

We leave it up to the store owner, this is totally at their discretion. And you as an individual don't have to get the digital health card if you don't want it," he said.

COVID deaths in the U.S. surpassed 800,000 on Wednesday, according to a New York Times database, and cases are rising once again.

In Connecticut, there were 1,723 new cases, bringing the total to 452,038. The positivity rate has averaged around 5% over a rolling seven-day average, though it was 7.15% on Wednesday.

Hospitalizations for COVID increased by 35 to 716, slightly more than half of what there were during the surge of cases a year ago and about one third of what was recorded in the first wave in the spring of 2020.

Three quarters of those hospitalized with COVID were not fully vaccinated. Lamont said promoting vaccinations and booster shots remain Connecticut's primary tool in fighting the pandemic.

Courant staff writer Christopher Keating contributed to this story.

# **Jobs**

from Page 1

domestic travel. Jet engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney posted a 25% increase in the July-September quarter.

Joe Toner, executive director of the Connecticut State Building Trades Council, said an increase in construction can be attributed to work on a large submarine assembly building at General Dynamics Electric Boat's in Groton shipyard and an end-of-season push for road paving.

Labor Commissioner Danté Bartolomeo said the labor report brings continued good economic news.

Nearly 157,000 jobless workers sought unemployment benefits at this time last year. That has since dropped to about 45,000

weekly filers, she said.

"The job market is growing and people are finding new jobs quickly," Bartolomeo said.

Patrick Flaherty, the Labor Department's research director, said the 11 consecutive months of job growth this year match a record set in early 2015. Jobs have increased by more than 5,000 a month in each of the past three months, he said.

Jobs declined in just one sector, financial activities, where the number dipped by 1,100, a drop of 0.9%.

Here is a breakdown of job growth in November.

**Manufacturing:** Jobs were up 1,700, or 1.1%. Construction and mining: Jobs increased by 1.200, or 2%

**Government:** Employment increased by 1,200, or 0.5%.

Professional and business services: Jobs increased by 1,000, or 0.5%. Leisure and hospitality: Jobs increased by

Education and health services: Jobs increased by 300, or 0.1%

700, or 0.5%

market shed 100 jobs.

Four of Connecticut's six labor market areas posted employment gains. This includes:

■ 1,900 in the New Haven labor market area ■ 500 in the Waterbury area

■ 200 in the Norwich-New London-

Westerly, R.I., area ■ 100 in the Bridgeport-Stamford area. The Hartford-West Hartford-East Hartford area lost 300 jobs and the Danbury labor

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@ courant.com.

# **Planning**

from Page 1

The nationwide chain Shake Shack has five locations in Connecticut, according to its website, including West Hartford and New Haven. The restaurant serves burgers, fries, hot dogs, milk shakes and frozen  $custard, among\,other\,offerings.$ 

Construction of a Whole Foods supermarket on the site is to start in the spring, and Lipe said construction of the new Shake Shack likely will start

about the same time. The Goddard School has franchise locations across the nation, including in Glastonbury, Newington and Rocky Hill. The schools are focused on children from infants to 6 years old. The vacant space to be renovated is next to Ted's Montana Grill and included the Flatbread Company, which closed recently.

Of parcels that remain for development at Evergreen Walk, one is targeted for an independent living facility, while a bank is expected to submit a site plan

application for land across from LA Fitness, Lipe said.

Just over the Manchester line near the Buckland Hills mall, Evergreen Walk won local approval in 2001 and opened in

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@ courant.com.

## CONNECTICUT

# Fasold child porn trial could face delay

**By Don Stacom** Hartford Courant

Child pornography defendant Kyle Fasold's numerous suicide attempts have hampered defense preparations badly, and combined with delays from the pandemic mean a trial can't start until summer or possibly autumn, Fasold's attorney told a federal judge Thursday.

At a virtual hearing, Assistant U.S Attorney Nancy Gifford emphasized that victims in the case — mostly preteen and teenage girls from Plainville — have been waiting "quite some time for a resolution," but agreed to delay a trial until July.

Gifford also cautioned that if there's no plea deal before then, the government has evidence that could justify more charges than the two counts of producing and distributing child pornography. If convicted of the existing charges, Fasold faces a sentence of 40 to 100 years in prison.

Appearing on Zoom in a wheelchair at the South Carolina medical facility where he's being held, Fasold told U.S. District Court Judge Michael Shea that he's willing to wait for jury selection until July 6. Fasold has been jailed since his arrest in early March of 2020. Over the course of those 21 months in

incarceration, Fasold, apparently attempted suicide at least three times, according to court documents. Fasold, 51, was crippled when he jumped from a second-floor walkway at the Wyatt Detention Facility in Rhode Island; in other instances, he tried to hang himself and to overdose on medication, according to documents.

Defense preparations stalled because of pandemic-related restrictions and by a series of transfers as the prison system sends Fasold between a contracted medical facility in South Carolina and the federal prison in Butner, N.C., Assistant Federal Public Defender Charles Willson said in a brief last

"Mr. Fasold previously was held in a facility in South Carolina, where Mr. Fasold had to be revived following an overdose. That facility did not provide adequate care, and it was a significant distance from counsel and the court, significantly hampering the attorney/client relationship and Mr. Fasold's ability to participate in his defense.

"Just when there was some indication that matters might be getting on track, this situation have become complicated once again" because of a broken leg that Fasold, 51. evidently suffered at the South Carolina facility. Willson wrote.

While held in bed for several weeks, Fasold developed a severe bedsore and now his condition is so complex that the federal prison system doesn't have an appropriate place to detain him, Willson said.

"Treaters have determined that Mr. Fasold is likely to need orthopedic surgery due to the deepening of the infection, as well as plastic surgery," Willson wrote.

Willson is asking the federal marshals service to transfer Fasold to the federal medical center at Devens, Mass., for long-term

During his time at Butner, Fasold underwent a psychological evaluation to determine if he's mentally capable of standing trial. After reviewing the report of Dr. Dawn Graney, a forensic psychologist who specializes in sex offender cases, Shea concluded Thursday that Fasold is competent.

Willson said he needs time with Fasold to review the prosecution's case.

"I almost feel the need to start over again with Mr. Fasold" because of extended delays

in discussion between the suicide attempts, Willson said.

Gifford said she is optimistic that the case can be resolved before trial, but added "at some point our evidence would require multiple more counts "if there is no settle-

Prosecutors said Fasold, formerly vice president of the Blue Dolphins Swim Team's parents association, secretly videoed girls changing in the Plainville High School shower room. He also used a hidden camera to record girls changing into swimsuits in the bathroom of his home when at least one Blue Dolphins event was held there, according to documents. He is accused of posting pictures and videos to child sex sites on the dark web.

Soon after Fasold's arrest, investigators announced they had seized video and computer equipment and were looking into what could be an extensive collection of child pornography. They have not commented further, but court documents indicate the prosecution has notified more than 30 potential victims.

Don Stacom can be reached at dstacom@ courant.com.

# **Ex-Danbury** mayor will oversee state infrastructure allotment

By Christopher Keating Hartford Courant

Former Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton has been chosen to oversee billions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding that has been awarded to Connecticut.

Gov. Ned Lamont, a Democrat, appointed Boughton, a Republican who currently serves as the state's tax commissioner, to be his senior adviser on the issue.

In the newly created post, Boughton will work closely with multiple commissioners who will be dealing with funding from the massive federal infrastructure package, which was signed into law by President Joe Biden.

With unprecedented amounts of federal funding, Lamont said that he does not want to miss the opportunity to make the best use of the money for roads, bridges, and improving public transit, as well as combating climate change with more electric vehicles, among others.

"Boughton knows how local government works, and he knows how state government works, providing a unique and necessary perspective that I know will be successful as we put these federal dollars to work from this historic bipartisan legislation," Lamont said in a state-

Boughton will continue his duties as the state's tax commissioner.

"My experience as a mayor and commissioner have shown me the importance of whole-government collaboration, and I look forward to working with my colleagues and other stakeholders across the state to address infrastructure needs, create good-quality jobs, and position Connecticut to make the most of this historic allocation of funds," he said.

Some of the top officials who will be working with Boughton include chief operating officer Josh Geballe, budget director Melissa McCaw, environmental protection commissioner Katie Dykes, transportation commissioner Joseph Giulietti and others.

Under the law, Connecticut is scheduled to receive \$5.38 billion over the next five years or approximately \$1 billion per year. This includes \$3.29 billion for major road projects, \$1.3 billion for buses and railroads, \$561 million to strengthen bridges, and \$100 million for extending computer broadband coverage around the state and to low-income families.

In addition, the law has \$100 billion in competitive grants that would be awarded around the nation for a variety of projects. Those includes items like purchasing low-emission and no-emission buses, replacing bridges, and improving bus service. In addition, the bill calls for \$30 billion in competitive grants for the Northeast railroad corridor.

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com.



Gov. Ned Lamont has chosen former Danbury Mayor Mark Boughton, a Republican, to oversee millions of dollars in federal infrastructure funding that has been awarded to Connecticut. They are shown here in 2019, before Lamont nominated Boughton to be the state's tax commissioner. COURANT FILE PHOTO



The snowball pit in the pop-up storefront rendition of Connetic Dance's "The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy." From left are Leigh Schanfein, Lyndsay Rysedorph, Lili Rojek and Elisabeth Jeffrey. CONNETIC DANCE

# 'Nutcracker Suite & Spicy' scenes move into Trumbull Street storefront

**By Christopher Arnott** Hartford Courant

If you see human-shaped snowflakes dancing in a shop window on Trumbull Street, you're not having a holiday hallu-

Hartford's CONNetic Dance company has been offering "The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy," a bracing modern take on Tchaikovsky's bizarre ballet of dancing toys, for 12 seasons at the theater inside the Wadsworth Atheneum.

Unable to bring the whole "Suite & Spicy" cast together again this year due to COVID-19 concerns, CONNetic Dance has adapted several key scenes, including the snowflakes and the cheesy Ugly Sweater Party scene, for short, live performances as part of the downtown Winterfair shopping festival.

"The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy" is also available, as it was last year, in a pre-recorded streaming-on-demand version, along with a documentary made a couple of years ago to mark the show's 10th anniversary. But the show's director and choreographer Carolyn Paine,

its production designer Nina Goodale and many of the dancers (some of whom have been with the show since it began) wanted to do more, so they took over a storefront at 229 Trumbull St. (part of the XL Center) and will perform excerpts from "The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy" several times a week through the end of December.

The space has been transformed into an art installation, with set pieces for several "Suite & Spice" scenes that are performed live by eight dancers. The excerpts include such popular scenes as the Ugly Sweater party, the Snow Ball and the hip-hop battle.

The installation is worth a visit even when performances aren't happening. Before the live shows, the "Suite & Spicy" video and documentary are projected on a loop.

"It's almost a 'Nutcracker Suite & Spicy' museum experi-

The Atheneum has hosted the show for its entire history and is also a partner in this year's multimedia presentation. The museum agreed to offer the streaming version for free on its Vimeo channel. The video is a professional, multi-camera taping of a live performance in its entirety and includes a mixologist from Hartford Flavor Company demonstrating how to make an original cocktail, the Sugar Rum Cherry. The drink is named for Sugar Rum, the show's hip-hop version of

the Sugar Plum Fairy. "The reason we couldn't do it live ... this year," the choreographer says, "is that we have a cast of 25 professional dancers. It felt a little scary and we didn't want to risk anyone getting sick. We'll return to the Wadsworth when we can do it confidently, with the kids, the Ugly Sweater party and everything else."

The storefront project is nonetheless grand and ambitious in its own way, Paine says, requiring the company to rethink its dances and designs.

"The space is unique," Paine says, which allowed for such extras as "a giant 6-foot-tall snow globe with a nutcracker in it that you can take selfies with." The ballet's "Waltz of the Snowflakes" has been translated to a 9-foot "snowball pit," like the ball pits children play in, "with a starry night backdrop." "We're so excited to do something different," Paine says,

"and also encourage people to stay safe. We're making the space as safe as possible. Masks need to be worn inside. We are letting people remove them just for photo opportunities, if they're vaccinated."

The storefront is being offered as part of the wide-ranging Winterfair Holiday Market happening throughout downtown Hartford this month. The 229 Trumbull space is open Thursday and Friday from 5 to 9 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. through the end of December. The live performances are Thursday and Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday at both 2 and 4 p.m. The schedule may grow if demand increases. Paine says.

In its standard version (as staged at the Wadsworth and captured in the video), "The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy" opens on the streets of Hartford, with a tap-dancing street performer. It shifts to an Ugly Sweater Party hosted by Clara, who in this version of the ballet (based on a strange tale by 19th century Germany fantasy writer E.T.A. Hoffman). The music consists of jazz and rock interpretations of Tchaikovsky's original score, including some famous arrangements by Duke Ellington, as well as a live solo piano rendition of "Jingle Bell Rock," with a rap/breakdance interlude.

Paine says adapting the dances for the storefront has reminded her "how truly diverse this show is," ranging from hip-hop to Latin ballroom, tap dancing and beyond.

Traditional "Nutcracker" ballets are no longer "relatable," Paine says. "Every dancer has a love/hate relationship with 'The Nutcracker.' You do it, because it's everywhere, but you grow to hate it. It's hard to relate to a show about a girl who gets a kitchen appliance for Christmas."

She and Goodale wanted to create a version that was "not just diverse in its cast," Paine says, "but in the kinds of dancing — hip-hop next to ballet, with ballroom dancing and tap dancing also in the mix. As things progressed, we found ways to challenge everything in 'The Nutcracker.' We wanted to push the envelope on everything."

The show has also been updated over the years to address topical issues. Clara's encounter with "The Club Rat" now reflects the #metoo movement. "Clara, in our version, is an adult woman hosting a party. The Nutcracker doesn't protect her. He can stand up for her, but in the end Clara will fight her own battles.'

The storyline may be lost, but the diversity of styles and performers will still come through in the live storefront perfor-

"It's also nostalgic, and filled with holiday happiness," Paine says. "It's been a rough time lately. We just wanted to come and have fun.

Details of all the varied formats of the show - the live excerpts, the video, the documentary, the drink recipes and even some downloadable coloring pages and a social media Ugly Sweater Selfie contest — are at CONNetic Dance's website, conneticdance.com.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.





# **PUBLIC NOTICES**

WESTFIELD FIRE DISTRICT of the City of Middletown 653 East Street Middletown, CT 06457 Legal Notice

Pursuant to the By-Laws of the Westfield Fire District of the City of Middletown, notice is hereby given that those individuals residing within the geographical confines of the Westfield Fire District who wish to be considered candidates for the elected positions of Commissioner must submit their names in writing by registered, certified or hand delivered letter, postmarked or delivered on or before 4 pm on Friday, January 14, 2022 and addressed to: Linda DeManche Fire District Administrator

Westfield Fire District 653 East Street Middletown, CT 06457

Except as otherwise provided in said By-laws, failure to so notify the Westfield Fire District shall preclude an individual's name from being considered for election to the position of Commissioner at the election to be held on February 1, 2022.

E. Gregory Amy, Chairman Board of Fire Commissioners Westfield Fire District Of the City of Middletown 12/17/2021 7102527



NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Sharon M. Lazicki (21-00875)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated December 9, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is: Gail Camire

c/o Michael w Mastrianni, Mastrianni & Seguljic, llc, 128 East Street, Plainville, CT 06062

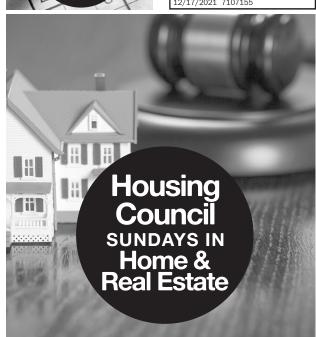
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARION P. PFENNING, Late of Hallandale Beach, FL, AKA MARION PFENNING (21-00360)

The Hon. Jennifer L. Berkenstock, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Region # 14 Probate Court, by decree dated December 14, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Suzanne B. Emond, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Janet DelGreco Olson
c/o PHRANCES LEVERTON SZEWCZYK,
LAW OFFICE OF PHRANCES L SZEWCZYK,
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# Serendipity strikes for Simon Rex

Jumping through windows of opportunity leads him to acclaim as adult-film antihero

By Jake Coyle Associated Press

Simon Rex, in town for the recent Gotham Awards, where he was nominated for outstanding lead performance in "Red Rocket," was comparing today's pandemic-scarred New York with the city he knew in the 1990s as a VJ on

"Times Square was like pimps and sex booths, and then it became Disneyland. Now it feels kind of sketchy again, and I kind of like it.' Rex says, smiling. "Maybe I shouldn't say that.'

However much New York has changed in the last 25 years, it's got nothing on the fluctuations of fortune for Rex. The 47-year-old sometimes actor, sometimes rapper, regular socialmedia prankster and Los Angeles nightlife fixture is drawing the best reviews of his life for his performance as Mikey Saber, a downand-out adult film star — "a suitcase pimp" one character calls him — who returns home broke to East Texas. It's not just acclaim that's new to Rex — it's being taken seriously, at all.

"So much is happening that I'll just sit in a hotel room to gather myself for a minute, and I'm like, Wait," Rex said. "And I just

Everything about "Red Rocket" (now in theaters) is unlikely. Director Sean Baker, coming off

the celebrated, Oscarnominated "The Florida Project," had spent years prepping another film that he had to abandon when the pandemic arrived. One of his producers called him up and said he could get enough money together for something small. Baker turned to a script he had from several years ago a character study that emerged from research into the pornography industry. He had always envisioned Rex — who was then churning out outlandish

Vine videos — in the role. "This guy can improvise, he's funny, he's really great with delivery. And he's proven even in those six-second Vine videos that he has dramatic capability," Baker says. "It was actually Joseph Kahn's 'Bodied' (in which Rex played a rap battle promoter) where I was finally was like, 'All right, enough already. Someday.'

With a modest budget of \$1 million, Baker set up "Red Rocket" in Galveston, shooting on 16mm and — as he prefers to do often casting people off the street. With a small crew that included his producer wife, Samantha Quan, and production designer sister, Stephonik Youth, Baker makes grittily realistic movies that have a touch of fable to them.

Concerned about being shut down by COVID-19, Baker readied the produc-



Simon Rex, seen Nov. 29 in New York, plays Mikey Saber, a down-and-out adult film star, in "Red Rocket." MATT LICARI/INVISION

tion before reaching out to Rex less than two weeks before shooting began. He told him to send an audition video within minutes. Then Baker gave him the part, but said to keep it a secret from his agent.

"Sean just said, 'Do you trust me? You're not going to make any money — I'm not, either. We're just going to make a cool movie,' recalls Rex. "I had nothing to lose."

Rex's career has always been driven by serendipity. A girlfriend's audition led to his start in modeling. Then MTV, looking for unconventional TV hosts, called him up. Gus Van Sant asked him to audition for "Good Will Hunting." He bombed the audition but Van Sant's advice led to acting classes, and those led to films like the "Scarv Movie" series. Rex launched a goofy rap

persona dubbed Dirt Nasty that scored a record deal with Interscope.

"There's been no design or plan. I never had any dreams of making it in show business. Everything kind of came to me," says Rex. "If I did anything right, when these windows of opportunity presented themselves, I jumped through them. It's a lot of right place, right time. A lot of the right attitude and not being too safe, which is sometimes a good thing,

sometimes a bad thing." Rex's hustling, up-anddown career also meant he instinctually understood Saber, an opportunistic porn star using his sleazy charm to scavenge for sex, money and a place to stay. Rex, himself, had a brief brush with pornography as a young man, and his most popular song exalted his

own genitalia.

"It almost reminds me of someone from, like, high school. He's very boyish. But living in LA the last 20 years, do you know how many delusional, narcissistic, self-involved people there are?" says Rex.

Hollywood looms in the background of "Red Rocket" much the way Disney World did in "The Florida Project," as a fantasy and an industry that's both sustaining and exploitive. In Saber, Baker crafts a modern day antihero in the mold of those found in movies like Mike Leigh's "Naked," Vincent Gallo's "Buffalo 66" and Bob Rafelson's "Five Easy Pieces."

"I always loved antiheros in films, we've just veered away from it at late because of the sensitive environment we're

living in right now," Baker says. "Audiences can say: 'That's a human. That's a human I see on screen there.' They're not perfect in any way shape or form. We've gotten to a place where everybody's a saint. Everybody's perfect and doing the right thing. That bores me. I don't need to be preached to that way."

It took Baker by surprise when "Red Rocket," then unfinished, was accepted into competition at the Cannes Film Festival this summer. He called Rex with the news. "We're going to Cannes, baby!"

Since then, it has been a fairly constant whirlwind of festivals and awards banquets. "Red Rocket," made on the fly in the midst of the pandemic, has ended on many year-end top 10 lists. In a crowded Oscar field of A-listers like Will Smith, Benedict Cumberbatch and Denzel Washington, Rex is in the best-actor mix. It's a long way from some of his recent credits. Two years ago, he played Dark Jokester in "Avengers of Justice: Farce Wars.'

"I always believed in myself, but I don't think Hollywood did. I would sit there like, 'Maybe I'm just a completely delusional narcissist," says Rex. "Deep inside, I knew there was something else out there like this. I just didn't think it would be this. I would have been happy landing a TV show that shot in LA for six years."

Now, Rex — who will co-star in "Down Low," with Zachary Quinto and "Mack & Rita," with Diane Keaton — finds himself doing something unfathomable: Saying no.

"The phone is ringing. If you had told me a year ago that I'd be turning down legitimate offers, I would have laughed in your face. How quickly things change," Rex says, shaking his head. "When there's no expectations, the magic happens. Right?"

# **CELEBRITIES**

# Burton to host Scripps spelling bee

From news services

LeVar Burton has been hired as host of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, giving the competition a celebrity headliner who's also a longtime literacy advocate as Scripps takes over production of the bee telecast.

Burton, who played Geordi La Forge on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and was the host of the children's educational program "Reading Rainbow," said ahead of Thursday's announcement by Scripps that he said "yes" immediately when approached about the hosting role. Burton comes from a family of educators and said the bee represents "the inspirational, aspirational ideal of education."

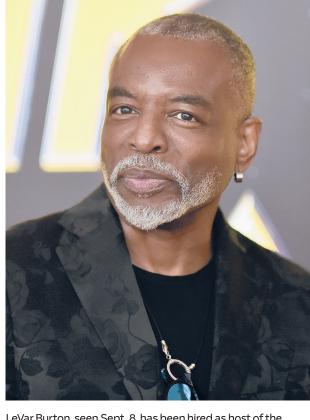
"I want to normalize the pursuit of knowledge in this culture. That wouldn't be a bad thing, would it?" Burton said. "Not just making stuff up and calling it a fact. Achievement through knowledge, scholarship, putting in the work to gain the reward."

Burton described the opportunity as one of many that have come his way since his unsuccessful public campaign to become the permanent host of "Jeopardy!" His bid to succeed the late Alex Trebek attracted plenty of goodwill online while the show's producers were roundly criticized for their decision to hire Mike Richards, who stepped down shortly thereafter when his past insensitive comments were revealed.

Scripps announced this fall it has ended its partnership with ESPN, which brought the bee to millions of viewers and promoted it like a major sporting event.

The bee will air next year on the Scripps-owned networks ION and Bounce

and will stream online. Springsteen sells music catalog: Bruce Springsteen



LeVar Burton, seen Sept. 8, has been hired as host of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. RICHARD SHOTWELL/INVISION

has sold his entire catalog of music, including his master recordings and song publishing catalog, to Sony Music Entertainment in a blockbuster deal that reportedly could be worth \$500 million.

The transaction, which includes classic songs "Born to Run," "Dancing in the Dark," "Born in the U.S.A." and hundreds of others stretching back nearly 50 years, will send Springsteen's recorded masters to his longtime home Sony Music and his song publishing to its corporate sibling, Sony Music Publishing.

The Boss' payday is the largest in a string of deals since 2019 that has seen classics of American music sold to major music

Street renamed for Young Dolph: Family and friends of slain rapper Young Dolph remembered him Wednesday as a loving

father, skilled businessman and generous philanthropist at a ceremony renaming a street for him in Memphis, Tennessee.

The rapper's son, 7, stood on a ladder and pulled a string to remove the cover off the brown and gold street sign, not far from Young Dolph's boyhood home and the bakery where he was killed Nov. 17. A stretch of road near Memphis International Airport, Dunn Avenue, now has a sign bearing the rap artist's real name, Adolph Thornton Jr.

Dec. 17 birthdays: Singer Tommy Steele is 85. Actor Ernie Hudson is 76. TV host Chris Matthews is 76. Actor Eugene Levy is 75. Actor Wes Studi is 74. Singer Wanda Hutchinson Vaughn is 70. Actor Bill Pullman is 68. Director Peter Farrelly is 65. Singer Sara Dallin is 60. Actor Sarah Paulson is 47. Actor Milla Jovovich is 46.



# ASK AMY

**By Amy Dickinson** 

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

# Papa wants to put stop to daughter's crop top

**Dear Amy:** I am the proud papa of a brilliant, beautiful, 18-year-old daughter. She is thriving as a freshman in college.

She came home recently for Thanksgiving wearing a "crop top," exposing her stomach (we live in a very warm climate).

She is 20 pounds overweight. I know she doesn't need to be reminded of this, as she is aware and diligently working out at the gym.

She walks everywhere she needs to go, and we purchased her a bike for her to use at school, so she rides that, too.

How do I (or should I) tell my daughter that crop tops are just not the best look for her?

I was going to say something while she was with us, but I chickened out and decided to write to you instead.

— Proud Papa

Dear Papa: You might believe that you "chickened out," but I believe that your instincts kicked in, telling you how potentially damaging your remarks might have been to your daughter's self-esteem.

She is already aware of and handling her weight in a healthy way. It might seem petty to you, but a critical remark, especially from her dad, could derail her progress, or inspire

disordered eating. Your daughter, like all daughters, is literally surrounded by cues and images about what her body should look like.

The last thing she needs is her father joining in, scrutinizing and critiqu-

ing her body. (Make no

what she was wearing,

mistake, if you criticized

she would have immediately drawn a straight line between the words you said, and what she believed you really meant to say.)

Even a light teasing remark regarding your daughter's weight or how she looks can backfire.

The reason your attitude matters so much is because you are your daughter's beloved "papa." You are, quite literally, The Man.

Confine any constructive criticism to her school performance, her driving skills, her work around the house. Keep your opinion about her crop top to yourself.

Dear Amy: Is it unethical to use things which are mailed to me in hopes that I will donate money to the organization, when I don't

respond with a donation? (I'm talking about Christmas cards and address labels.)

Some of the organizations I have received these things from are those I've donated to in the past.

But I did not want and did not request these cards. Can I still send them out to family and friends with-

out paying for them? Requests this year have tripled. It is obvious that my contact information has been shared with numerous organizations.

What are your thoughts? – Fear of Being a Freeloader

**Dear Fear:** You have the right to use these things that are sent to you.

According to the Federal Trade Commission, these items are quite literally "free gifts." Even if you didn't solicit or order these gifts, when they are sent to you, they belong to you.

Your guilt over using them "without paying for them" means that these campaigns work! But understand that if you use them (without donating), any recipient you send them to may also notice what organization generates these cards and address labels, increasing their marketing reach.

I donate any unsolicited cards to my local library's book sale. Facilities for elders will also take these donated cards for residents to use.

To eliminate these solicitations, contact individual charities, asking to be removed from their list and/or requesting that they not share your information. You can also use the online registry form on DMAchoice.org to cut down on the amount of direct mail you receive. There is a \$2 processing

**Dear Amy:** "Deflated Post Wedding" described his disappointment when his daughter didn't personally greet her aunt and uncle at her wedding. He planned to tell her that his brother was offended and disappointed not to be greeted.

Amy, you blew it. You should have advised this dad that his brother should have conveyed his disappointment to the bride directly — not going through the dad.

These adults should not use him as a go-between. – Been There

Dear Been There: I agree!

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# Final sessions created a classic out of chaos

Bandmates detail Morrison's process for 'LA Woman' on 50th anniversary

**By Randall Roberts**Los Angeles Times

During the period in late 1970 and early '71 when Jim Morrison and his bandmates in the Doors were recording their sixth and final studio album, "L.A. Woman," at their West Hollywood rehearsal space, the singer was drowning in a booze-fueled bender: drunk nearly every night but sober by morning and ambling across Santa Monica Boulevard for the day's session.

"When he got too drunk, he would become kind of (a jerk)," recalls Doors guitarist Robby Krieger during the "L.A. Woman" sessions. "It got harder and harder to be close with him. He'd have his drinking buddies, and we were always trying to keep them from being together." Krieger's new memoir, "Set the Night on Fire: Living, Dying, and Playing Guitar With the Doors," doesn't pull any punches when it comes to Morrison's dark side, nor does it minimize his creative light.

"L.A. Woman" is the subject of a new reissue from Rhino Records. Called "L.A. Woman: 50th Anniversary Deluxe Edition," the physical set features a remaster of the album by original co-producer Bruce Botnick, two discs' worth of fascinating studio outtakes, extensive liner notes and a vinyl copy of the original stereo mix.

That Morrison, Krieger, drummer John Densmore and keyboardist Ray Manzarek managed to create "L.A. Woman" wasn't a foregone conclusion. After all, Morrison was the kind of guy who, after entering the Empire State Building in 1969



The Doors — John Densmore, from left, Robby Krieger, Jim Morrison and Ray Manzarek — arrive at London Airport in 1968. The Doors released "L.A. Woman" in April 1971. **EXPRESS/GETTY** 

for a tour and boarding a crowded elevator, "swiped his hand across all the buttons, to the annoyance of all the other passengers who then had to wait as the elevator stopped at every single floor," Krieger writes in his memoir.

But the musicians were locking in at rehearsals, and Morrison was writing, Krieger says. "Jim would stay in this crappy motel called the Alta Cienega, which was right across the street. That was good, because getting Jim to show up for recording sometimes wasn't easy. This time, because he was so close, he was usually the first one there."

By then, he'd become a certified rock star. Each of the Doors' earlier albums, including their early 1967 self-titled debut and their fall follow-up, "Strange Days," had gone platinum, though none had hit No. 1 until their third, "Waiting for the Sun," and its smash, "Hello, I Love You," in 1968.

Initially tentative during their early years at the

Whisky A Go Go, by the time the Doors released "Morrison Hotel" in early 1970, Morrison and his bandmates had toured incessantly. Morrison's writhing, explosive performances made headlines, and were way wilder than those of pop-oriented LA peers the Byrds, Joni Mitchell or the Mamas and the Papas.

Morrison had been increasingly tanked onstage across the band's two dozen shows in 1970, where the Doors were playing their hits alongside blues classics including John Lee Hooker's "Crawling King Snake," which they'd end up recording for "L.A. Woman."

"Jim loved singing the blues, especially when he was inebriated," says Botnick.

At the Doors' disastrous Dec. 12, 1970, tour stop in New Orleans — Morrison's final concert — the rest of the band bailed on Morrison midset due to his narcissistic betweensong tirades. During a stop in Dallas the night before New Orleans, they'd debuted then-new song "Riders on the Storm," and it had sounded great. "We thought, 'Wow, we're going to be a cool rock jazz group,'" says Densmore. "Then the next night Jim

ble. I hated the erosion."
The drummer, who
last year published "The
Seekers: Meetings With
Remarkable Musicians
(and Other Artists)," hoped
that by returning to LA they
could gather themselves
and figure out how to help
Morrison.

was so drunk it was terri-

Their longtime producer Paul A. Rothchild, who at the time was mourning the October death of close friend Janis Joplin (he oversaw her album "Pearl"), had produced the Doors' most popular songs, including "Light My Fire," "People Are Strange" and "Love Me Two Times." He was scheduled to return for "L.A. Woman" but bowed out before the sessions really began. Included among the outtakes and

demos is a recording of early attempts at "Riders on the Storm," which are said to have prompted Rothchild to dismiss the song, and the band's direction, as "cocktail jazz."

Krieger disputes this telling of Rothchild's departure, though. "The real reason was that he'd just done Janis and then she died. He had the feeling that something might happen if he produced our album." Rothchild, continues Krieger, "didn't want to be known as the guy who produced somebody and then they died."

Morrison's return from touring meant the reemergence of his enabling sycophants. In his 1998 memoir, "Light My Fire: My Life With the Doors," Manzarek described these hangers-on as "reprobates, degenerate descendants of indentured servants, slimeballs and general Hollywood trash."

"On Sundays, when we

were off, he would go to bars, get drunk and crash his car," wrote Manzarek. Still, somehow from this

Still, somehow from this chaos came one of the great songs about Los Angeles.

"'L.A. Woman' is in three parts because we didn't get it all at once," Botnick recalls of the process. "It was a fairly complicated song, and to get it to sound uncomplicated took a little bit of woodshedding." The new 50th anniversary edition includes all 40 minutes of the band's recorded attempts at nailing "L.A. Woman."

The true revelation in the demos, though, is how sober and excited Morrison sounds. Between takes on the haunting "Riders on the Storm," he playfully starts singing the theme to the Western TV show "Rawhide." "I don't follow orders. I'm just a dumb singer," he says after another take.

For Krieger, hearing those outtakes offered a reminder of the ways in which musical connection manifests itself. "There's magic in that one take," he says. "The other ones are very similar but the magic just wasn't there. It shows you how lucky you have to be to capture it."

They weren't uniformly lucky on the album, which remains a polarizing listen that often finds Morrison adopting the demeanor of a cigarette-stained prowler who boasts and moans his way through simply written blues lyrics.

By 1971, Morrison had nearly quit music a few years earlier to pursue poetry, self-publishing books as James Douglas Morrison. With the "L.A. Woman" recording sessions in the can, Morrison decided to fly to Paris for an extended stay with his girlfriend, Pamela Courson.

After the album's release in April 1971, Densmore received an out-of-the-blue phone call from Morrison. "He seemed a little loopy," says Densmore. "But I loved that he was calling me to find out how 'L.A. Woman' was doing, and I was excited to tell him that 'Love Her Madly' was a big hit."

Densmore told Morrison that "Riders on the Storm" would be the next single. "He said, 'Great,' and that he'd be back eventually."

Morrison died on July 3, 1971, of heart failure in the bathtub of his and Courson's apartment.

In the decades since Morrison's death, Densmore says that he's regularly been asked if he thought Morrison could have avoided his fate and gotten clean and sober had he not gone to Paris.

"I used to say, 'No, he was a kamikaze drunk,'" says the drummer. "But I've changed that answer. It's a different time. Substance abuse clinics weren't cool. Now, angry, creative guys like Jim are clean and sober. And why not? Jim was smart."

# Holiday rom-com 'With Love' follows Latino family for a year

By Lynn Elber Associated Press

After slogging through a universally difficult 2020 and with Christmas approaching, Gloria Calderon Kellett sought out a trusted form of

"I was watching 'When Harry Met Sally,' which I do every year, and 'Love Actually,' all of those wonderful rom-coms, and I was reminded that it is indeed a white Christmas on our screens," said the writer-producer ("One Day at a Time," "Jane the Virgin").

America was also facing "a barrage of darkness," she said, including violence and intolerance toward people of color and the LGBTQ community.

"I can provide a panacea," Calderon Kellett recalled thinking. "I can provide a healing salve and give people ... something where they are the center of a story, and they're experiencing love and joy and all the warm good feelings."

Amazon gave her pitch a quick approval, and the result is the original series "With Love," a holiday potpourri of a rom-com with a Latino family and tolerance at its heart. Holiday movies have eased away from rigidly all-white casts, but people of color overall are playing catch-up when it comes to easenal TV stories

seasonal TV stories.

"I feel like this show represents the Latinx community in a way that we truly are, but nobody's ever seen us before," said series star Constance Marie. "We are just like everybody else. We have Christmas holiday traditions, just like everybody else. And (the series is) so inclusive that it really kind of educates people."

The five episodes of the Portland-set "With Love," now streaming, follow the extended Diaz family,



Constance Marie, left, and Gloria Calderon Kellett in the limited series "With Love." **KEVIN ESTRADA/AMAZON** 

their friends and partners through a holiday cycle of Christmas Eve (Nochebuena), New Year's Eve, Valentine's Day, July Fourth and the Day of the Dead (Dia de los Muertos).

Many of the characters face relationship challenges, including Beatriz (Constance Marie) and Jorge Diaz Sr. (Benito Martinez), in a middle-age marital slump; siblings Lily (Emeraude Toubia), who just dumped her perfect boyfriend, and Jorge Jr., who may have met his Mr. Right (Vincent Rodriguez III), and cousin Sol (Isis King), a physician who's falling for a co-worker.

Calderon Kellett, who began her career as an actor, gets to deliver some choice lines in the supporting role of Gladys, who's unapologetically single and exuberant.

"This is a rom-com that happens to be about a Latino family, not a Latino rom-com. So I hope that we welcome in people that love rom-coms, and that they see their family in some way through the lens of this family," she said.

What's most striking is the Diaz family's willingness to accept each other and those they meet. There's affectionate teasing by relatives but everyone in their midst — older or younger, gay or trans or straight, white or not — is respected and embraced.

For Calderon Kellett, that's not wishful thinking. It reflects the reality of her family circle and the blended Latino and Irish American household she's created with husband Dave Kellett, a cartoonist and writer.

King, who co-stars as the trans, nonbinary Sol, welcomed the chance to play an upbeat character for whom being trans wasn't the defining characteristic.

"Being someone who loves rom-coms and loves this genre, I was just so excited to be a part" of the series, she said. "In my everyday life, I'm kind of goofy and silly and lighthearted, and for trans people, we don't ever get to see ourselves like that."

Good cheer is what Calderon Kellett hopes "With Love" brings to viewers and, through its diverse and open-hearted characters, maybe something more.

"It's a romantic comedy package; we know what that is," she said. "But in that, can we sneak some broccoli into the mashed potatoes, show some things that are not often seen, and tell some stories that are not often told?"

# **HOROSCOPES**

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Communicating with others is highly encouraged today. You could learn some very interesting or important news that gives birth to a highly viable idea or opportunity. Either way, this isn't a day to keep to yourself.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You've got your eyes on the prize today. Put your money where your mouth is and make sure you're getting your proper dues. If you've been hoping for a raise or other financial recognition, this is a terrific time to raise the matter with a boss or supervisor.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You're the focal point of today. Early this afternoon, form a lovely expansion, reminding you of all the possibilities waiting just beyond your own backyard. Consider doing something to increase your knowledge or the way you view the world, like cracking open a new book or signing up for a course.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Life might feel a little off balance today, as though you're having trouble finding solid ground. Normally, the wisest solution would be not to expect too much out of life. Fortunately, the people around you will likely be more inclined than usual to support you. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):

There could be a hurdle to jump today when it comes to your relationships. This might have to do with a romantic relationship, but its more likely to involve a business or platonic partnership. Someone who you consider an equal may bring an important matter to your door.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It might seem like nothing happens if you don't make it happen. It can probably get a little tiring having to work as hard as you do. Things may not be all that difficult at the moment! Roll up your sleeves to work and you could sail through everything with flying colors!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's a good day to break out of any ruts that you might have been keeping yourself in. Rework the way you engage with life on a major scale, this afternoon in particular. You are being encouraged to learn in a creative way. This kind of growth is important, no matter how uncomfortable it may be.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Showing others your more vulnerable feelings isn't always fun, but it could be quite beneficial at this time. There are many different ways to express emotion and receive it, and sometimes its fun to be wild and expansive! Allow yourself to approach life from a softer side.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Some deep conversations may be in store for

you at the moment. In all your communications, don't bother with any casual conversations today. Instead, try to discuss things that are important to you, because they can bring you even closer with peers and partners.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The serious side of life could come through today. Happily, any changes aren't likely to revolve around dramatic or drastic moments. There's no room on your plate for people who can't bring their best. That's not to say you should expect everyone to be constantly perfect.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Life may currently feel rather daunting, and that's absolutely valid. It's not the easiest thing to put yourself out there and take risks to show people what you're all about. Today you might find yourself on a bit of a precipice. You also have no reason to be scared of your own wonderful abilities!

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Your giving nature is almost always beneficial, but every once in a while you might be better served by making someone else meet you at least halfway. Letting people come to you will ensure that anyone who decides to come seeking you will have an issue worth your time.

# TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

**On Dec.17,1777,** France recognized American independence.

In 1903, Wilbur and Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, conducted the first successful manned powered-airplane flights near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

In 1975, Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme was sentenced in Sacramento, California, to life in prison for her attempt on the life of President Gerald R. Ford.

In 1992, President George H.W. Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari signed the North American Free Trade Agreement.

In 2007, Iran received its first nuclear fuel from Russia, paving the way for the startup of its reactor.

**In 2014,** the U.S. and Cuba restored diplomatic relations, sweeping away one of the last vestiges of the Cold War.

# **BONUS PUZZLE PAGE**

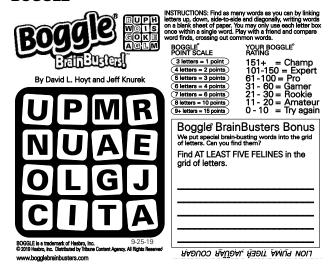
An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at **Play.Jumble.com** 

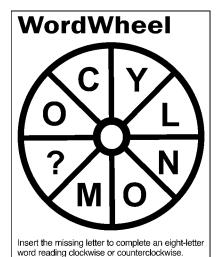


## **SUDOKU**

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| © 2017 T | 9 |   |   |   | 3 |    | 8 | 6 | 6                | 9   | 7            | 8               | 7                       | 3               | 7      | 9     | l     |       |

# **BOGGLE**





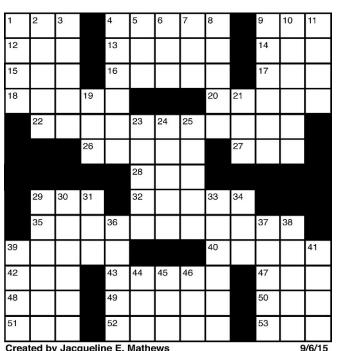
COMMONEY





## **TV CROSSWORD**

## by Jacqueline E. Mathews



# Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

## **ACROSS** 1 Cruise or Hanks

- 4 Bonet and Kudrow
- 9 Actress \_\_ Sara 12 Wife to Mickey, Artie and Frank
- 13 \_\_ likelihood; probably 14 Traveler's stop 15 Galloped
- 16 Soup server's utensil
- 17 Banned pesticide, for short 18 Excuse
- 20 Singer Gormé
- 22 Actor on "NCIS: New Orleans" 26 Sandbar
- Goodman of "Dancing with the
- Stars"
  28 Fight result, for short
- 29 "Grand \_\_ Opry"
  32 Actor Winkler
  35 Host of "America's Funniest
- Home Videos"

- 39 Bigwig; powerful person 40 Gomez Addams' portrayer
- 42 Marsh
- 43 In debt 47 Kaiser or Aetna, for short



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- 48 MacGraw or Larter 49 Christopher Columbus' city of
- birth 50 Long, long time
- "Voyage to the Bottom of the \_\_"
- 52 Howard or Isaac 53 Deli loaf

# DOWN

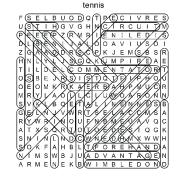
- Scarlett O'Hara's estate 2 Skating rinks
- \_-depressive; bipolar 4 Frasier's ex
- "Message \_\_ Bottle"; Kevin Costner movie
- 6 Down in the dumps 7 "Up \_\_ Night" 8 Smooth and glossy
- 9 "Malcolm in the \_\_"
  10 "The World's Fastest \_\_"; film for
- Anthony Hopkins
- 11 Opening bet in poker 19 Derek and Diddley
- "The King and I" star
- 23 "Say Yes \_\_ Dress" 24 Star of "The Mentalist"
- \_ Came a Spider"; movie for Morgan Freeman 29 Peter or Annette
- 30 Actor Robert
- 31 Flightless Australian bird 33 Family name on "Blue Bloods" 34 2015 and others: abbr.
- 36 Personal websites "The \_\_ Guys"; movie for Will Ferrell
- 38 Mr. Spock's portrayer 39 Advanced business degrees, for
- short 41 Number of Emmys for "The
- Gong Show" 44 Moist
- 46 Neither's partner
- 45 Ending for Max or Paul

COURT

CONCEDE

COMMENTATOR

**CLUB** 



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CHARACTER

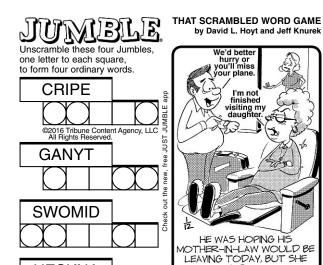
## **JUMBLE**

GAME

GRASS

**GRIP** 

HITS



RETURN

SERVICE

SEED

**SERVE** 

**TOWEL** 

**UMPIRE** 

WIMBLEDON

WHITE

**HESKNA** HAD Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WISDOM

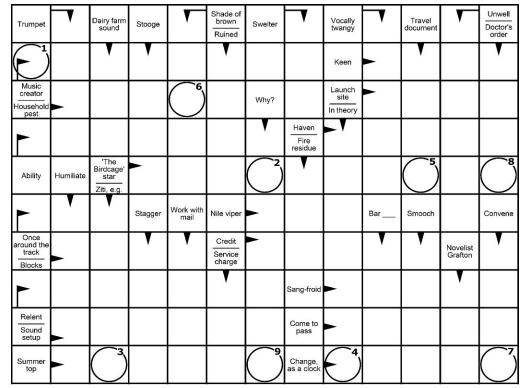
**TANGY** 

Answer: He was hoping his mother-in-law would be leaving today, but she had — STAYING POWER

# **ARROW WORDS**

Jumbles: PRICE

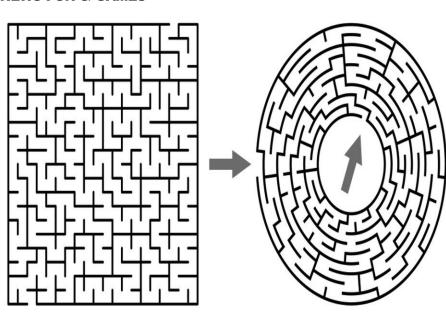
Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.



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3 9 2 5 6 8

# **KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES**



# **FIND 10 DIFFERENCES**

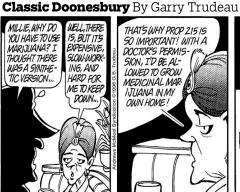


## **Peanuts** By Charles M. Schulz













Garfield By Jim Davis











**Dustin** By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker







Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis







Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



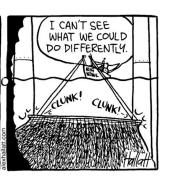




Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt







**Jump Start** By Robb Armstrong







**Get Fuzzy** By Darby Conley







**Blondie** By Dean Young and John Marshall







## **Dilbert** By Scott Adams



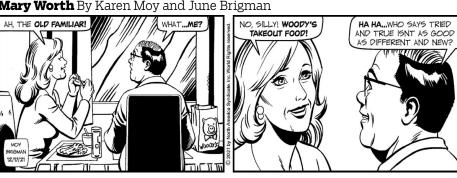


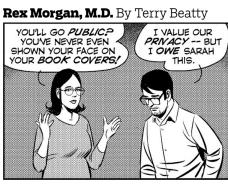
OKAY, DO THAT. AND ASK TINA TO MAKE THE USER MANUAL MORE CONFUSING SO OUR CUSTOMERS THINK IT'S THEIR FAULT WHEN IT DOESN'T WORK.

**Gil Thorp** By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman







Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley

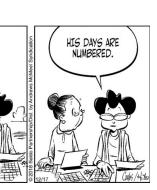


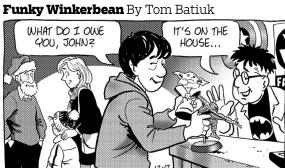


**Baldo** By Cantu and Castellanos



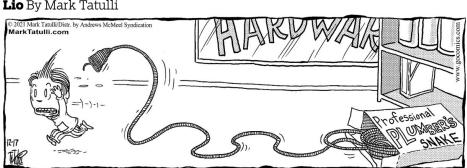








Lio By Mark Tatulli

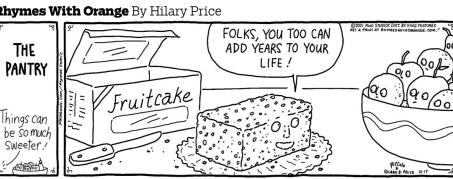


Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker





Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price



**Monty** By Jim Meddick



## For Better Or For Worse By Lynn Johnston









**B.C.** By Hart





Beetle Bailey by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker





Hi & Lois By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne





Hagar The Horrible By Chris Browne





Non Sequitur By Wiley Miller









Curtis By Ray Billingsley









Pickles By Brian Crane









**Zits** By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman







Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer









**Mother Goose And Grimm** By Mike Peters







# CROSSWORD

## **Across** Follower of

- Jefferson Turn on
- Mountaintop home
- Outfits for a climber?
- 17 Refuse
- outfits?
- A.A. Milne 23 Fictional 1847
- \_ Paulo
- Typographical 25
- Evasive tactics
- Polynesian capital
- 42 Long-gone time
- 46 Belafonte which "Day-O" was the first track
- 53 Subway
- 55 Sword with a three-
- 56 Outfits for the
- Outfits
- for dairy farmers?
- 66 Swung wildly

# EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

67 Transfers, as a house

2 Handel's "\_ Galatea e

Polifemo

canines

"up

old

Close

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10 Many an

11 Revolts

Omani

militants

12 Like many "Argo"

9

3 Poisonous plant

4 Chinese book of

divination

5 Register, with

6 Music halls of

8 Ring bearer?

reputed to repe

- 68 Secures
- 13 Polluter's crime Down 1 Not so hot
- 18 His-and-her
  - The first "A" in
- autobiographer
- ornament
- 31 Spot
- 32 Infuriates
- Outfits for 35 tourist town natives?
- 39 Jessica of "Dark Angel"
- 43 Tiger, e.g.
- #1 album on 50 Turns on
- 52 Corp. alias letters
- fare?
- sided blade
- masses? 61 They hold your horses
- 65 Deejay, at times

- 16 White alternative
- 19 Emmy-winning scientist '90s-'00s Cubs 20
- star 21 GEICO highlights 22 Tell tales,
- maybe Book jacket text, 26 often
- Semicircle, say 28 Leaves for a
- spot
- 30 Student housing VIPs
- 33 Wily 35 Set down
- 36 Take badly? \_\_you done?" 37 38 Perceive

Words of

confession

41

- 58 Jazz phrase 39 Like some
- "Enchanted" appliances 40 Worked
  - movie girl 60 Aliases

43 Tablet

alternative

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Land"

47 Called

49 Food bit

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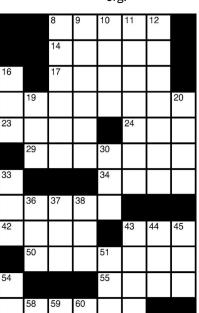
48 It's sometimes

necessary to

with "Ask Me

come to them

- 63 Thieves' place
- 64 Radical '60s org.



Tribune Content Agency 12/17/21

hand justice, since you could make the

# **BRIDGE**

# **Bidding quiz**

By Gary Larson

You have the following hand, both sides vulnerable:

[S] 974 [H] 10 [D] Q76 [C] AKJ873

- 1. Your partner opens One Notrump, and your right-hand opponent bids Two Hearts. What would you bid now?
- 2. Your partner opens One Spade, and you respond Two Clubs. Partner rebids Two Spades. What would you bid now? 3. Your right-hand opponent opens
- Three Hearts, and after two passes, your partner doubles. What would you bid now? 4. Your partner opens One Spade, and you respond Two Clubs. Partner rebids Two
- Notrump. What would you bid now?
- 1. Three notrump. You can't guarantee three notrump, but the odds heavily favor making it. Partner is extremely likely to have at least one heart stopper, so nine tricks in notrump, with the help of your club suit, are very probable.

Five clubs could be a better contract, but there's no practical way of investigating that possibility without giving up on the notrump game. You could bid three clubs over two hearts, but most players treat this bid as nonforcing, and that might end the auction.

2. Four spades. True, you have only 10 high-card points, but game is nevertheless probable after partner rebids spades, showing extra length in the suit. Your singleton heart has enormous value. It would be overly cautious to bid only three spades, as partner is unlikely to lose four

3. Five clubs. To bid only four clubs would not come anywhere close to doing your

same bid with four or five small clubs and a worthless hand. The jump to five clubs represents your

values fairly accurately. If partner passes, you'll probably make iust five: if he raises to six clubs, vou'll

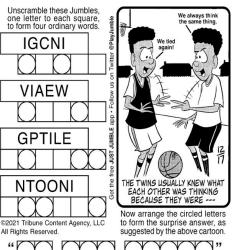
probably make that also. 4. Three spades. You could take a stab at three notrump, but, considering your 6-3-3-1 distribution, the hand will almost surely play better in spades.

The three-spade bid (forcing) asks partner to choose between spades and notrump, depending on his hand. Since you are in no position to judge what is best, you should let partner make the final decision. If he has something like: [S] Q8532 [H] AQ5 [D] KJ4 [C] Q6, three notrump is by far the best contract.

**Tomorrow:** Try the impossible.

# **JUMBLE**

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK



Jumbles: CONGA MUNCH OUTAGE ELDEST The individual digits that make up the number 11 are - ONE AND THE SAME

## **TODAY'S SUDOKU** Complete the grid so each

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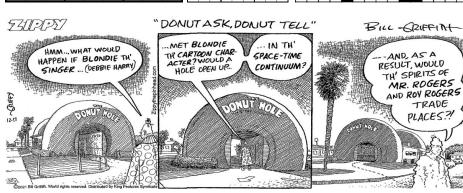
row, column and 3-by-3 box in hold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku visit **www.sudoku.org.uk** 

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## ABLETALKER STAGDIANE URNSIGNAL A M E L I A O R U E B L U E W A S M O S T E P P O N T E ETUI S T R I P T E A S E I W I N A R I E S I W I N DSLS

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- ✓ GUTTERS
- ✓ SKYLIGHTS
- **DOWNSPOUTS**





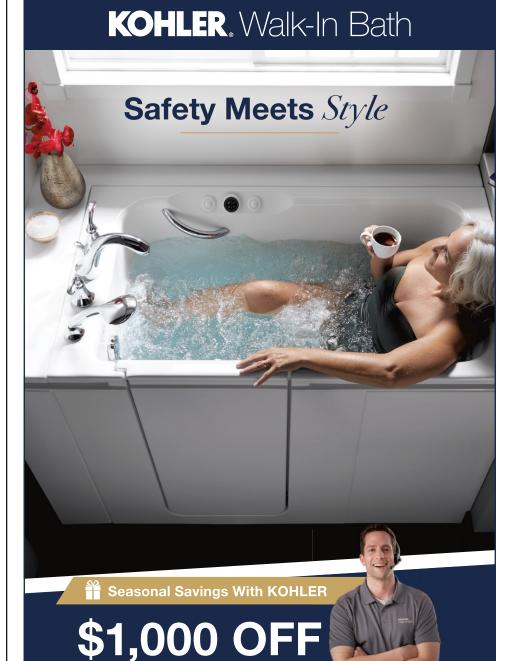
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# SPORTS

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**UCONN BASKETBALL** 

# 'THIS IS WHAT WE'VE BEEN MISSING ...'

As roar of Big East crowds returns, former UConn President Susan Herbst couldn't be happier



Dom Amore

HARTFORD — The UConn men were facing the end of their season and the end of an Big East era on March 9, 2013. Every seat in Gampel Pavilion was filled as the Huskies took down Providence in overtime

"It was the most emotional

game," former UConn president Susan Herbst remembered. "If you remember after the game, nobody wanted to leave. Kids were crying. It was a great last game for us, to play Providence, a team we loved playing, and it was a crazy great game."

Shabazz Napier, who played with an injured ankle, gave then-UConn coach Kevin Ollie a long hug, leading some to speculate he would leave school. The scene around them was reminiscent of the last Hartford Whalers game, even if UConn was staying put. The Huskies were banned from postseason play for sub-par academic [APR] scores and the Big East Conference was breaking up, with Providence to disappear from UConn's schedule.

"I was like, 'why, why, why' up and down the board," Herbst said. "Why not us in the Big East? Why won't we be with Providence forever? We didn't even get to go to The Garden. I think I cried all the way home. 'What's going to become of us?" It was one of those

Turn to Amore, Page 4



Near the end of her tenure at UConn, President Susan Herbst, left, drove UConn back to the Big East, welcomed by Commissioner Val Ackerman, right. The first Big East men's basketball game with fans will be played Saturday at XL Center as Providence comes to town. RICHARD DREW/AP

BASEBALL COMMENTARY

# Ortiz belongs in Hall of Fame. Period.

By Justin Mastrodonato
Boston Herald

BOSTON — Here's a reminder for those partaking in the "Is David Ortiz a Hall of Famer?" discussion at this year's holiday parties: MLB's anonymous drug testing in 2003 was anything but reliable.

It's an important topic to dive into as the wildly popular Red Sox' designated hitter is on the Hall of Fame ballot for the first time this winter. His numbers are as good as Frank Thomas', the first-ballot Hall of Fame DH/first baseman, and better than Edgar Martinez's, whose plaque is also in Cooperstown.

If he entered the Hall of Fame tomorrow, Ortiz would be 10th in homers, ninth in doubles and 17th in RBIs.

It's not about the numbers. It's about the voters/fans of baseball who are trying their best to decipher between players connected to performance enhancing drug use but never confirmed to have cheated, and those who have been.

Ortiz belongs in the first category, and it's a blurry category to operate in.

Let's take you back to the New York Times report in 2009 that was the first and only example of Ortiz testing positive for PEDs.

The report that Ortiz's name was on the list is certainly believable.

It was written by Michael Schmidt, a reporter who has gone on to have a long and successful career in journalism. He's broken some of the biggest stories of the millennium, including the story

Turn to Ortiz, Page 2

# Inside

■ Yankees: Clint Frazier says another head injury in spring training caused problems. Page 2 ■ Mets: COVID postpones DWI case of former GM Zack Scott. Page 2

# HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL



Farmington coach Duane Witter instructs his team against Northwest Catholic on Thursday. **STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT** 

# Winning in a loss

Farmington coach Duane Witter grateful to be back on the sideline, even with season-opening defeat to Northwest Catholic

By Lori Riley Hartford Courant

FARMINGTON — As he lay in a hospital bed a year ago, Farmington High boys basketball coach Duane Witter envisioned what would unfold Thursday night in his school's gym in the first game of the 2021-22 high school season.

Although his Farmington team ended up losing to Northwest Catholic, 63-51, in the CCC West game, it was still a victory for Witter to be back on the court. He was initially diagnosed with leukemia in 2019 but after treatment, he returned to teach at Farmington and coach the 2019-20 basketball season that was cut short by the

...............................

After being in remission for seven months, the leukemia returned and he had to undergo a stem cell transplant last year, forcing him to miss the school year and the pandemic-shortened season.

"Tonight was a milestone," Witter said Thursday. "Laying in a hospital bed a year ago, I dreamed about this, but it was make believe. I was thinking, 'I'm going to work hard at recovery' and I did so I could get back to this moment.

"It's not make believe any more. It's about 'Believe.' That's been our mantra here. We've got it on the wall [of the gym]. I believe that I'm going to continue to get better and I believe this team is going to

continue to get better."

Northwest Catholic, led by Matt Curtis' 22 points, shot out to a 19-9 first quarter lead that grew to 35-19 late in the second quarter.

But Farmington believed. The River Hawks chipped away at the lead, cutting it to six points three times in the fourth quarter but couldn't quite get past that margin.

"We definitely left it all out there," Farmington's Nick Duncan, who led his team with 23 points.

Duncan, a senior, said it was good to have his coach back.

"It gives us a confident edge that he's on our sideline and he has all this breadth of knowledge," he

Turn to Farmington, Page 4

## **GIANTS** ANALYSIS

# Jones should be shut down for season

**By Pat Leonard** New York Daily News

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

— The Giants should shut down
Daniel Jones for the rest of the
season.

Head coach Joe Judge threw his support behind Jones as the Giants' quarterback for 2022 on Wednesday. So it's time to turn Jones' full focus to being physically ready for next season.

"I feel good about Daniel already," Judge said Wednesday. "I want him to keep growing and developing his craft. He's a great asset to our team. You want to have him available to play with the team... Daniel's done a good job growing for us. We're going to keep on pushing

forward with him."

Ideally, the Giants (4-9) would have been able to see Jones play and produce down the stretch with new offensive play-caller Freddie Kitchens and a host of healthy weapons. Unfortunately, their situation couldn't be further from ideal.

Jones has a neck strain that has given two spinal surgeons enough reservations that they haven't cleared him for contact. The Giants don't consider the injury career-threatening, but he's dealing with an issue in a sensitive area of the body. So it isn't worth the risk to rush back.

"There is life after football," wide receiver Kenny Golladay said Thursday.

The Giants already were prioritizing Jones' long-term health by holding him out a third straight game on Sunday with the Cowboys (9-4) visiting MetLife Stadium. Now it's time to stop hoping for good news after these weekly checkups.

This team isn't going to the playoffs. They will be eliminated officially soon. Their offensive line stinks. Most of their skill players have been hurt. And the Giants are getting crushed by COVID-19, just like

**Turn to Giants,** Page 4

# Up next



Cowboys at Giants 1 p.m. Sun., FOX

■ Inside: NFL regional roundup.

Page 4

# Did you know?

In the winter, air and pavement temperatures can often differ by many degrees - creating unexpected dangers for drivers.

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## **UP NEXT**

Patriots: at Colts. Saturday, 8:15 p.m. Giants: Cowboys, Sunday, 1 p.m. Jets: at Dolphins, Sunday,

**UConn MBB:** Providence (XL), Saturday, 5 p.m.; at Marquette, Tuesday, 9 p.m.; at Xavier, Dec. 28, 7 p.m.

UConn WBB: Basketball HoF Women's Showcase: vs. Louisville (Mohegan Sun), Sunday, 3:30 p.m.; Marquette (XL), Dec. 29, 7 p.m.; at DePaul, Dec. 31,

Celtics: Warriors, Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Knicks, Saturday, 7 p.m.; 76ers, Monday, 7:30 p.m. Knicks: at Celtics, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Pistons,

Nets: Magic, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Nuggets, Sunday, 7:30 p.m.; Wizards, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m

Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.;

Wizards, Thursday,

UConn hockey: at Harvard, Jan. 2, 7 p.m.; at Boston Coll., Jan. 8, 4 p.m.; Boston Univ., Jan. 14. 7 p.m.

Bruins: at Canadiens, Saturday, 7 p.m.; at Senators, Sunday, 5 p.m.; Hurricanes, Tuesday,

Rangers: Knights, Friday, 7 p.m.; Canadiens, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Red Wings, Dec. 27, 7 p.m. Wolf Pack: Lehigh Valley, Friday, 7 p.m.; at Springfield, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Springfield, Sunday, 3 p.m.

## TV/RADIO **BASKETBALL**

4 p.m.: St. Bonaventure vs Virginia Tech. (Live)

6:30 p.m.: Richmond vs NC State. (Live) ACC 7 p.m.: Furman at Mississippi State. (Live)

7:30 p.m.: Golden State Warriors at Boston Celtics. (Live), ESPN,

8 p.m.: Villanova at Creighton. (Live) FS1 9 p.m.: Wake Forest vs Charlotte. (Live) ACC 10:05 p.m.: Los Angeles Lakers at Minnesota Timberwolves. (Live) **ESPN** 

10:30 p.m.: Charlotte Hornets at Portland Trail Blazers. (Live) SPRTNET **BOATING** 

12 a.m.: Sailing SailGP Australia: Day 2. (Live)

2:30 a.m.: Sailing SailGP Australia: Day 1. (Live)

# **FOOTBALL**

12 p.m.: Bahamas Bowl --Middle Tennessee State vs Toledo. (Live) ESPN 12 p.m.: NCAA Division III Tournament - Mary Hardin-Baylor at Wisconsin-Whitewater. (Taped) ESPNU 6 p.m.: Cure Bowl -

Northern Illinois vs Coastal Carolina. (Live)

7 p.m.: NCAA Division III Championship - North Central (III.) vs Marv Hardin-Baylor. (Live) **ESPNU** 

8 p.m.: New Mexico Military vs. Iowa Western. (Live) CBSSN

9:15 p.m.: FCS Division I -James Madison at North Dakota State. (Live) ESPN2 **GOLF** 

**12:30 p.m.:** PNC Championship, Pro-Am. (Live) GOLF

**HOCKEY** 3 p.m.: Boston Bruins at New York Islanders.

(Taped) NHL 7 p.m.: Vegas Golden Knights at New York Rangers. (Live), MSG 7 p.m.: Lehigh Vallev Phantoms at Hartford Wolf Pack. (Live), Radio:

7 p.m.: Buffalo Sabres at Pittsburgh Penguins. (Live) SPRTNET 8 p.m.: Womens Hockey

Rivalry Series - Canada at United States. (Live) NHL SOCCER

5 a.m.: 2021 FIFA Arab Cup Third-Place Game: Teams TBA. (Live)

**TENNIS** 

6 a.m.: ATP Tennis Mubadala 5th Place & Semifinals, Rio De Janeiro-ATP Challenger & Maia 2-ATP Challenger Quarterfinals & Doubles Semifinals. (Live) TENNIS 4 p.m.: ATP Tennis Rio de Janeiro-ATP Challenger, Ouarterfinal 4. (Live) **TENNIS** 

## **METS**

# Scott verdict postponed after ex-Met GM gets COVID-19

By Matthew Roberson New York Daily News

NEW YORK - Zack Scott's drunk driving verdict was originally scheduled to come down on Thursday, but the former acting general manager of the Mets contracted COVID-19, delaying the case until Jan. 6, according to a report by Newsday.

He was originally arrested on the early morning of Aug. 31 in White Plains after leaving an event at owner Steve Cohen's mansion in Connecticut. He pleaded not guilty and was placed on administrative leave by the Mets, who then fired him in November.

Scott's lawyer, Bruce Bendish, said his client asked to attend the case virtually but was denied by White Plains City Court judge Eric Press, according to Newsday. When the case resumes on Jan. 6. Scott will learn whether or not he is guilty of driving while ability impaired by alcohol (DWAI)

or guilty of driving while intoxicated (DWI). The DWAI, a lesser charge than a DWI, was agreed upon as a potential ruling after the prosecution and defense completed their closing arguments on Monday.

Westchester County assistant district attorney Davida Hawkes stated in her closing argument that Scott was "at least impaired," per Newsday, seemingly putting a DWAI verdict in the lead. A DWAI conviction would mean up to 15 days in jail and a fine of roughly \$300 to \$500. Scott would also get his driver's license suspended for 90 days. A DWI could carry up to a year in jail, a \$500-\$1,000 fine and six-month license suspension

The trial began on Dec. 8 and just needed a ruling from Judge Press to be completed, which is what both parties were hoping for on Thursday before Scott's COVID diagnosis. This was a non-jury trial at Bendish's

The defense for Scott lies in two key arguments: that he did not fail the field sobriety tests, and that he hadn't fallen asleep at the wheel, but rather, was distracted and looking down at his cell phone. Body cam footage from the scene "didn't indicate a person was intoxicated by any stretch of the imagination," Press said, while also conceding that Scott was essentially parked at a standstill in the middle of the road when arrested.

'He's not charged with that (being distracted)," Bendish said in his closing argument. "But that may be what he's guilty of."

According to arresting officer Frank Confalone, Scott did fail all three sobriety tests. He and sergeant John Guastella testified that Scott stayed at a traffic light for two full cycles without moving. Scott did not take a chemical test for his blood-alcohol concen-



Warriors guard Stephen Curry reacts after scoring a 3-pointer during the first half against the Knicks on Tuesday at Madison Square Garden in New York. MARY ALTAFFER/AP

# **CELTICS**

# Trying to shut down Curry will be quite a challenge

By Adam Himmelsbach Boston Globe

BOSTON — Although Stephen Curry broke former Boston great Ray Allen's NBA record for career 3-pointers on Tuesday against the Knicks, the Celtics probably did not mind the timing.

If Curry had come to

TD Garden on Friday with the mark within reach, it would have turned the night into a sideshow. And it's hard enough to stop Curry without added distractions.

At 33, Curry is in the midst of another MVPcaliber season, and he has guided the Warriors (23-5) back to the top of the NBA, despite the fact that Klay Thompson has yet to play a game. Curry enters Friday's showdown averaging 26.9 points, 6.1 assists, and 5.5 rebounds per game.

"Just impressed," Celtics forward Al Horford said. "You can just see, you can tell that he's doing a good job taking care of his body lifting weights, treatment, all those things. And he's putting in the work. He shows that if you do all those things, you can still play at a very high level. It's been fun to watch him being able to do what he does and really setting the league on notice."

**KNICKS** 

Celtics coach Ime Udoka called Curry a "revolutionary player" and was especially impressed that Curry broke Allen's record in 511 fewer games. Udoka said it will obviously be important for the Celtics' defense to swarm Curry, but it must also be aware of the openings that will create elsewhere, particularly in the paint.

Close to full strength: Javlen Brown was limited to about 30 minutes when he returned to face the Bucks on Monday after missing five games because of a sore hamstrIng. But Udoka said that after the past three days of practice and rest time, that minor restriction has been lifted.

Josh Richardson also has been cleared to return after missing two games while in the league's COVID-19 protocols. Although Romeo Langford and Jabari Parker missed practice on Thursday because of non-COVID illnesses and are questionable for Friday's game, the Celtics are in position to have their core rotation available, a rarity this

"You can kind of get a full sense of your whole team and what you want to do, defensively, offensively, and, honestly, putting guys into different places and packages," Udoka said.

## **YANKEES**

# Frazier: Another head injury caused his recent problems

By Kristie Ackert New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Clint Frazier said he was battling concussion symptoms that affected his mental health last season, making him feel like he was fighting for his life. The former Yankees outfielder linked the issue to "bumping into the wall" in spring training in an appearance on the Short Porch podcast.

"I was severely symptomatic with some of these past issues that I was having," said Frazier, who signed with the Cubs right before the MLB lockout was imposed by owners. "I was like, 'We gotta pick the pace up. I need help. I need serious help.'

The 27-year-old, who was designated for assignment and released by the Yankees last month, had battled the after-effects of a brutal collision with the wall in spring 2018, which cost him most of that year.

"I showed up to spring training and started to feel better, and then it kind of, like, came back, because I had an instance where I bumped the wall again," said Frazier. "I went into the whole season feeling that

While he did not specify what "bump" brought back the symptoms, Frazier did have a very hard collision with the leftfield wall last spring during a game against the Tigers in Lakeland. The outfielder was checked by two trainers and Aaron Boone after the play but remained in the game.

He admitted that he did not tell the Yankees of the symptoms coming back, saving they were unaware he felt he was "fighting for my life."

Frazier last played for the Yankees June 30. He left after three innings of a game against the Angels at Yankee Stadium with what the Yankees then described as vertigo-like symptoms. After months of doctors visits and tests that included vision and his neck muscles, the team gave no real public explanation for Frazier's absence. He eventually shut down his season in August, pulling himself from a minor league game.



Clint Frazier's time with the Yankees appears to be done. MATT SLOCUM/AP

Frazier said he was "severely struggling with this stuff" and the fact that there was no diagnosis made it worse. He told the podcast he had to separate fighting for his health with his professional career so he could get on with his life.

Signings: The Yankees have bought themselves some Gold Glove insurance for center field. They signed former Braves center fielder Ender Inciarte to a minor league deal, according to the MLB transaction page. The lefty-hitting outfielder was among four play-

ers New York signed to minor-league deals. The Yankees also signed: Vinny Nittoli, a 31-year old right-hander with one game in the majors; infielder Wilkerman Garcia, a 23-year-old shortstop, second baseman and third baseman who had previously been in the Yankees organization never advancing past High A ball; and Blake Perkins is a switch-hitting center fielder, who has not advanced beyond Double-A in the Texas

Ortiz from Page 1

detailing Hillary Clinton's private email server and former President Donald Trump's attempt to fire Robert Mueller. His credentials are as good as anyone's, and there's little reason to doubt the accuracy of the report.

For all intents and purposes, it's fair to assume Ortiz's name was, indeed, on the list of positive tests in 2003, when MLB experimented with random drug tests to see if there were enough suspected positives

to institute an actual policy. It still doesn't mean he's guilty.

Is it fair to question his career because of it? Of course. There will be voters who refuse to check the box next to the name of any player even remotely connected to steroids. The purists who intend to keep the Hall of Fame as clean as possible, despite there being known and suspected cheaters already in there, have every right to do so.

But it's just as probable that Ortiz's positive test in 2003 was a fluke, and there are two key pieces of infor-

mation to consider here. First, and perhaps most striking, is that in the 2003 Times report, Barry Bonds was not on the list.

Let that sink in for a second.

Bonds, the face of steroids who cheated and lied about it in such a preposterous way that he faced criminal charges for perjury, did not originally test positive for PEDs in 2003, the year he won his third straight MVP while hitting .341 with 45 home

runs at age 38. And here's the kicker, according to the report: "federal agents seized (Bonds') 2003 sample and it was retested. Those results showed the presence of steroids ... ?

So not only was Bonds originally found to have not failed the first batch of drug tests in 2003, according to MLB's list, but the results were actually incorrect. It was later determined to be a false negative.

He was, of course, using in 2003.

And the second vital part of the Ortiz story is that commissioner Rob Manfred finally revealed key pieces of information in 2016, when he spoke about the testing in detail for the first time.

Inside of a small press conference room in the bowels of Fenway Park, Manfred told us that he knew for sure there were at least 10 false positives on the list of roughly 100 names in 2003, and that

"there were legitimate scientific questions about whether or not those were truly positives."

The science of the testing then, almost 20 years ago now, was so new and unrefined that MLB admitted it was "difficult to distinguish between certain substances that were legal, available over the counter, and not banned under our program, and certain banned substances."

Manfred explained that there were two tests: one at the beginning of the random testing window and then one at the end to see if the substance was present at both times. Often, those tests didn't line up.

"It was important to make people understand that even if your name was on that list, that it was entirely possible that you were not a positive," Manfred said then.

Ortiz never tested positive for the duration of his career.

Are there players in the Hall of fame who found an illegal or immoral advantage? Of course. Will more get inducted? Surely. But to say definitively that Ortiz is a cheater is a much more difficult argument to make.

You're allowed to have your suspicions, but don't lump Ortiz in the same category as Bonds and Roger Clemens.

about his role once again points (6.7) and field goal

NEW YORK – Mitchell Robinson is again venting on social media with crvptic messages about his role.

By Stefan Bondy

New York Daily News

Mitchell Robinson griping

Following his paltry stat line in Tuesday's loss to the Warriors, the Knicks center posted on his Instagram story, "One thing I learn after every game. ...Literally running for cardio. ...And playing help defense. ...Let's get it LOL."

The insinuation from Robinson — who scored just two points on two shots in 14 minutes — was that he's not getting the opportunities with the ball, and running around without purpose except "cardio." The vagueness would be easy to dismiss except Robinson has a history of such grumbling. Just last season, he tweeted after a game, "One day they'll let me play." He later claimed it was a "personal tweet" about "something going on in my life," which was a hard sell considering it was sent and deleted — immediately after he took just four shots in 31 minutes in a loss to the Jazz.

Robinson, 23, was recently removed from the starting lineup amid an admission he hasn't yet recovered his conditioning level following a lengthy recovery from a broken foot. The 23-year-old put on weight in the offseason and entered Thursday's game against the Rockets averaging career-lows in

attempts (3.7). Robinson will become an unrestricted free agent after the season after finishing a team-friendly deal that paid him just \$6.5 million over four years. He was projected as a top-level rim protector and finisher after earning Second Team All-Rookie in 2019, and set the NBA's single-season record for field goal percentage in 2020. But a combination of injuries and inconsistency

since have halted the hype. COVID outbreak grows: Kevin Knox became the latest to get sent into COVID-19 protocols, leaving the Knicks at least four players short for Thursday's game against the Rockets.

RJ Barrett, Obi Toppin and Quentin Grimes previously tested positive and each missed Tuesday's defeat to the Warriors.

Knox rode the pine all season but was thrust into the rotation the last two games because of the outbreak. His absence could mean a bigger role for Taj Gibson and/or Jericho Sims. Tom Thibodeau has shown no inclination to play Kemba Walker since removing him from the starting lineup.

Knox missed Summer League in August after contracting COVID-19.

"I lost some weight. But I put it on pretty quick," Knox said in October of his first bout with the illness. "The first week, I had trouble getting my wind back."

## D

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| Tampa Bay<br>Detroit<br>Boston  | 28 18<br>29 14<br>25 14                                    | 12 3   | 31                     | 92<br>80<br>70   | 76<br>97<br>66  |
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| <b>Bahamas Bow</b><br>Toledo  |  | (511/2)  |                        | lid. Te  |   |
| <b>Cure Bowl</b><br>Coastal Carolir<br><b>Boca Raton B</b> o  | owl  | (63)   | :                      | N. Illiı<br><b>Satur</b>                                 | day   |
| Appalachian St.<br><b>New Mexico E</b><br>Fresno State  |  | (68)<br>(51)   | W. I                   | Kentu<br>U   | ICKY<br>TEP   |
| Independence<br>BYU<br>LendingTree E  | 7  | <b>(</b> 54½   | )                      |  | JAB   |
| Liberty<br><b>LA Bowl</b>   | 91/2   | (581/2   |                        | Michg  |   |
| Oregon State<br><b>New Orleans</b> I<br>LaLafayette   | 7<br><b>Bowl</b><br>5                                      | (671/2   |                        | tah Si<br>Mars   |   |
| <b>Myrtle Beach</b><br>Tulsa<br><b>Famous Idaho</b>   | 9  |  | Old [                  | Mon<br>Oomir<br>Tues                                     | nion  |
| Wyoming<br>Frisco Bowl<br>UTSA  | 3  | (59)<br>(49)   | K                      | ent Si   | tate  |
| Armed Forces<br>Army<br>Frisco Footbal  | 4  | (571/2   | We<br>)                | dnes<br>Miss<br>hurs                                     | day<br>ouri   |
| Miami (Ohio)<br><b>Gasparilla Bo</b><br>Florida   | 3  | (541/2   | ) No                   | rth Te   |   |
| <b>Hawaii Bowl</b><br>Memphis   | 71/2   | (59)   | Frida                  | <b>y, Dec</b><br>Hav                                     | <b>. 24</b><br>waii   |
| <b>Camellia Bow</b><br>Georgia State<br><b>Quick Lane Bo</b>  | 4½<br><b>wl</b>  | (50½<br><b>M</b> e   | rday,<br>:) E<br>onday | Ball St<br><b>, Dec</b>                                  | tate<br><b>. 27</b>   |
| W Michigan  Military Bowl  Boston Colleg  | 6  | (56)   | ) East                 | Nev  | ada   |
| <b>Birmingham E</b><br>Auburn   | Sowl<br>3  | <b>Tu</b><br>(51½)   | iesda:                 | <b>y, Dec</b><br>Hous                                    | . 28  |
| SERVPRO Firs<br>Louisville<br>Liberty Bowl  | 11/2   | (551/2   | )                      | Air Fo   |   |
| Mississippi St<br><b>Holiday Bowl</b><br>NC State   | . 81/2   | (59½<br>(60)   | e) Te                  | xas T<br>U   | ech<br>CLA  |
| <b>Guaranteed R</b><br>Minnesota  |  | (45)   |                        | t Virg   | inia  |
| Fenway Bowl<br>Virginia<br>Pinstripe Bow  |  | (71)   | Vira                   | S  | MU  |
| Maryland<br>Cheez-It Bowl<br>Iowa State   | 1<br>1½  | (55)<br>(45½   | _                      | inia T<br>Clem   |   |
| <b>Alamo Bowl</b><br>Oklahoma<br><b>Duke's Mayo I</b>   | 4½<br><b>Bowl</b>  | (61½)<br><b>Th</b>   | ırsday                 | Ore  | :. 30   |
| North Carolin<br><b>Music City Bo</b><br>Tennessee  | a 9<br><b>wl</b><br>4½                                     | (58½<br>(63)   | ) Sout                 | th Car   | olina<br>due  |
| Peach Bowl<br>Michigan Stat<br>Las Vegas Bov  | Νİ   | (59)   |                        | ttsbu  | •   |
| Wisconsin<br>Gator Bowl<br>Texas A&M  | 7<br>4½  | (42)<br>(58)   | Frida                  | ona Si<br><b>y, Dec</b><br>ke Fo                         | . 31  |
| <b>Sun Bowl</b><br>Miami  | 21/2   |  | wa<br>Wash             |  |   |
| <b>Arizona Bowl</b><br>Boise State<br><b>CFP Semifina</b> l   |  | on Bov   |                        | ssic   |   |
| Alabama<br><b>CFP Semifinal</b><br>Georgia  | 131/2  | (58)   | vI<br>C                | incin<br>Michi   |   |
| <b>Outback Bowl</b><br>Penn State   |  |  | aturd                  |  | n. 1  |
| Fiesta Bowl<br>Notre Dame<br>Citrus Bowl  | 2  |  | )Okla                  |  |   |
| Kentucky<br>Rose Bowl   | 2½<br>6½   | (44)<br>(66)   |                        |  | owa<br>Itah   |
| Ohio State<br>Sugar Bowl<br>Baylor  | 61/2   | (55)   |                        | ssiss  |   |
| Texas Bowl<br>Kansas State  | 11/2   |  | uesda                  | ay, Ja   | n. 4<br>LSU   |
| NFL WEEK 1<br>FAVORITE<br>Las Vegas   | <b>SP</b>  | <b>O/U</b> (38½  | UN<br>at C             | TURE<br>IDERI<br>Ilevel                                  | OG<br>and   |
|   | is 2½<br>off   | (45½<br>(off)  | ) New                  | Engl<br>SUNI<br>Caro                                     | and<br><b>DAY</b><br>lina                                   |
| at Indiānapoli  | 13   | (47)   | ) at N                 | at Det<br>IY Gia   | roit<br>ants<br>ston  |
| at Indiānapoli<br>at Buffalo<br>Arizona<br>Dallas<br>at Jacksonvill   | 10½<br>e 5   | (391/2   | 2)                     | HOLLS  |   |
| at Indianapoli<br>at Buffalo<br>Arizona<br>Dallas<br>at Jacksonvill<br>Tennessee<br>at Philadelphia<br>at Miami   | 10½<br>e 5<br>1<br>a off<br>off                            | (39½<br>(42½<br>(off)<br>(off)                                 | ) at F                 | ittsbu<br>shing<br>NY                                    | jton<br>Jets  |
| at Indianapoli<br>at Buffalo<br>Arizona<br>Dallas<br>at Jacksonvill<br>Tennessee<br>at Philadelphia<br>at Miami<br>at San Francisc<br>at Denver<br>at LA Rams | 10½<br>e 5<br>1<br>a off<br>off<br>co 9½<br>2½<br>5½       | (39½<br>(42½<br>(off)<br>(off)<br>(46)<br>(44)                 | ) at F<br>Wa<br>C      | Pittsbu<br>shing<br>NY<br>Atla<br>incin<br>Sea           | iton<br>Jets<br>Inta<br>nati<br>Ittle                       |
| at Indiānapoli<br>at Buffalo<br>Arizona<br>Dallas<br>at Jacksonvill<br>Tennessee<br>at Philadelphia<br>at Miami<br>at San Francisc<br>at Denver               | 10½<br>e 5<br>1<br>a off<br>off<br>co 9½<br>2½<br>5½<br>5½ | (39½<br>(42½<br>(off)<br>(off)<br>(46)<br>(44)<br>(45)<br>(43½ | O at E  O at E  New    | Pittsbu<br>shing<br>NY<br>Atla<br>incin<br>Sea<br>Baltim | iton<br>Jets<br>Inta<br>nati<br>Ittle<br>Iore<br>ans<br>DAY |

| NBA                       |                    |          |              |                | NFL                            |         |        |     |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------------|----------------|--------------------------------|---------|--------|-----|
| EASTERN CON               | FERE               | NCE      |              |                | AMERICAN (                     | CO      | NFE    | RE  |
| ATLANTIC                  | W                  | L        | PCT          | GB             | EAST                           | W       | L      | Т   |
| Brooklyn                  | 20                 | 8        | .714         | _              | New England                    | 9       | 4      | 0   |
| Philadelphia              | 15                 | 14       | .517         | $5\frac{1}{2}$ | Buffalo                        | 7       | 6      | 0   |
| Boston                    | 14                 | 14       | .500         | 6              | Miami                          | 6       | 7      | 0   |
| Toronto                   | 13                 | 15       | .464         | 7<br>8         | N.Y. Jets                      | 3       | 10     | 0   |
| New York                  | 12                 | 16       | .429         | 8              | SOUTH                          | W       | L      | T   |
| SOUTHEAST                 | W                  | L        | PCT          | GB             | Tennessee<br>Indianapolis      | 9<br>7  | 4<br>6 | 0   |
| Miami                     | 17                 | 12       | .586         | _              | Houston                        | 2       | 11     | 0   |
| Charlotte                 | 16                 | 14       | .533         | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | Jacksonville                   | 2       | 11     | 0   |
| Washington                | 15                 | 14       | .517         | 2              | NORTH                          | W       | L      | Т   |
| Atlanta                   | 14                 | 14       | .500         | 2 1/2          | Baltimore                      | 8       | 5      | 0   |
| Orlando                   | 5                  | 24       | .172         | 12             | Cincinnati                     | 7       | 6      | 0   |
| CENTRAL                   | w                  | L        | PCT          | GB             | Cleveland                      | 7       | 6      | 0   |
|                           |                    |          |              | - GD           | Pittsburgh                     | 6       | 6      | 1   |
| Milwaukee                 | 19                 | 11       | .633         | 1/2            | WEST                           | W       | L      | T   |
| Chicago<br>Cleveland      | 17<br>18           | 10<br>12 | .630         | <sup>7</sup> 2 | Kansas City                    | 9       | 4      | 0   |
| Indiana                   | 12                 | 18       | .400         | 7              | L.A. Chargers                  | 8       | 5      | 0   |
| Detroit                   | 4                  | 22       | .154         | 13             | Denver                         | 7       | 6      | 0   |
|                           |                    |          |              |                | Las Vegas                      | 6       | 7      | 0   |
| WESTERN CON<br>SOUTHWEST  | FERE<br>W          | NCE<br>L | PCT          | GB             | NATIONAL C                     | 10:     | IFE    | REI |
|                           |                    |          |              | шь             | EAST                           | W       | L      | Т   |
| Memphis                   | 18                 | 11       | .621         | 3 1/2          | Dallas                         | 9       | 4      | 0   |
| Dallas<br>San Antonio     | 14<br>10           | 14<br>17 | .500<br>.370 | 3 ½<br>7       | Philadelphia                   | 6       | 7      | 0   |
| Houston                   | 9                  | 19       | .321         | 81/2           | Washington                     | 6       | 7      | 0   |
| New Orleans               | 9                  | 21       | .300         | 91/2           | N.Y. Giants                    | 4       | 9      | 0   |
| new orieuns               | ,                  |          | .500         | 3 / 2          | SOUTH                          | W       | L      | Т   |
| NORTHWEST                 | W                  | L        | PCT          | GB             | Tampa Bay                      | 10      | 3      | 0   |
| Utah                      | 20                 | 7        | .741         | _              | Atlanta<br>New Orleans         | 6       | 7<br>7 | 0   |
| Denver                    | 14                 | 14       | .500         | $6\frac{1}{2}$ | Carolina                       | 5       | 8      | 0   |
| Minnesota                 | 13                 | 15       | .464         | $7\frac{1}{2}$ | NORTH                          | w       | Ľ      | Ť   |
| Portland                  | 11                 | 18       | .379         | 10             |                                |         |        |     |
| Oklahoma City             | 8                  | 19       | .296         | 12             | Green Bay<br>Minnesota         | 10<br>6 | 3<br>7 | 0   |
| PACIFIC                   | w                  |          | PCT          | CD             | Chicago                        | 4       | 9      | 0   |
|                           |                    | L        |              | GB             | Detroit                        | 1       | 11     | 1   |
| Golden State              | 23                 | 5        | .821         | _              | WEST                           | w       | Ĺ      | Ť   |
| Phoenix                   | 22                 | 5        | .815         | 1/2            |                                |         | 3      |     |
| L.A. Clippers             | 16                 | 13       | .552         | 7½<br>7½       | Arizona<br>L.A. Rams           | 10<br>9 | 4      | 0   |
| L.A. Lakers<br>Sacramento | 16<br>12           | 13<br>17 | .552<br>.414 | 11 1/2         | San Francisco                  | -       | 6      | 0   |
| Sacramento                | 12                 | 11       | .414         | 11 72          | Seattle                        | 5       | 8      | 0   |
| THURSDAY'S RES            |                    |          |              |                |                                |         |        |     |
| Detroit at Indiana        | ı. late            |          |              |                | WEEK 15                        |         |        |     |
|                           |                    |          |              |                | THUDODAMO                      | DEC     |        |     |
| Philadelphia at B         | rookly             |          | te           |                | THURSDAY'S I                   |         |        | ar, |
|                           | rookly<br>ston, la | ate      |              |                | THURSDAY'S I<br>Kansas City at |         |        | ar  |

Washington at Phoenix, late Chicago at Toronto, ppd Las Vegas at Cleveland, 4:30p.m. FRIDAY'S GAMES Miami at Orlando, 7p.m. Denver at Atlanta, 7:30p.m. Golden State at Boston, 7:30p.m.

Milwaukee at New Orleans, 8p.m. San Antonio at Utah, 9p.m. Charlotte at Portland, 10p.m. L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 10p.m. Memphis at Sacramento, 10p.m. WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Atlanta 111, Orlando 99 Cleveland 124, Houston 89 Miami 101, Philadelphia 96 Milwaukee 114, Indiana 99 L.A. Lakers 107, Dallas 104(OT) New Orleans 113, Oklahoma City 110 Charlotte 131, San Antonio 115 Minnesota 124, Denver 107 Sacramento 119, Washington 105 Memphis 113, Portland 103 Utah 124, L.A. Clippers 103

COLLEGE BASKETBALL **MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED** No. 1 Baylor (9-0) did not play. Next: at No. 2 Duke (9-1) beat Appalachian St. 92-67. Next: vs. Loyola (Md.), Saturday. No. 3 Purdue (9-1) did not play. Next: No. 4 UCLA (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 Gonzaga (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 25 Texas Tech, Saturday. No. 6 Alabama (8-2) did not play. Next: Next: vs. Jacksonville St., Saturday. No. 7 Kansas (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Stephen F. Austin, Saturda No. 8 Arizona (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Cal Baptist, Saturday. No. 9 Villanova (7-3) did not play. Next: at Creighton, Friday.

No. 10 Southern Cal (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech. Saturday No. 11 Iowa St. (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. SE Louisiana, Sunday No. 12 Michigan St. (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oakland, Tuesday. No. 13 Auburn (9-1) did not play. Next: at Saint Louis, Saturday, No. 14 Houston (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma St., Saturday.
No. 15 Ohio St. (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Kentucky, Saturday. No. 16 Seton Hall (9-1) did not play. No. 17 Texas (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. Stanford, Sunday. No. 18 Tennessee (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Memphis, Saturday. No. 19 LSU (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Louisiana Tech. Saturday No. 20 (Conn (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. Providence, Saturday. No. 21 Kentucky (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 Ohio St., Saturday. No. 22 Xavier (10-1) did not play. Next: No. 23 Colorado St. (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Tulsa, Saturday.
No. 24 Arkansas (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Hofstra, Saturday.
No. 25 Texas Tech (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 Gonzaga, Saturday,

# THURSDAY'S SCORES

EAST Wagner 104, Immaculata 46 SOUTH Coastal Carolina 110. Regent 53 Duke 92, Appalachian St. 67 NC Wesleyan 79, Piedmont 70 Tennessee Tech 117, Montreat 60 The Citadel 102, St. Andrews Presbyterian Knights 62 MIDWEST Walsh 107, Franciscan 71 SOUTHWEST Rice 85, Incarnate Word 55

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED No. 1. South Carolina (11-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3 Stanford, Tuesday. No. 2 NC State (10-2) lost to No. 17 Geor gia 82-80. OT. Next: vs. Virginia. Sunday No. 3 Stanford (7-2) did not play. Next: at No. 7 Tennessee, Saturday. No. 4 Arizona (9-0) did not play. Next: at N. Arizona, Friday.

No. 5 Baylor (9-1) did not play. Next: at No. 13. Michigan, Sunday No. 6 Louisville (8-1) vs. E. Kentucky. Next: vs. No. 7 UConn, Sunday. No. 7 Tennessee (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3 Stanford, Saturda No. 7 Connecticut (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6 Louisville, Sunday No. 9 Maryland (9-3) did not play. Next: at Coppin State, Tuesday. No. 10 Indiana (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. W. Michigan, Sunday.
No. 11 Texas (7-1) did not play. Next: No. 12 Iowa State (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Prairie View, Sunday.
No. 13 Michigan (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 5 Baylor, Sunday. No. 14 lowa (5-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 15 Duke (8-1) did not play. Next: at Miami, Sunday. No. 16 South Florida (7-3) did not play. Next: vs. High Point, Friday. No. 17 Georgia (9-1) beat No. 2 NC State 82-80. OT. Next: vs. St. Francis (Pa.). Sun. No. 18 Georgia Tech (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Sunday. No. 19 Kentucky (6-3) did not play. Next: vs. Morgan St., Friday. No. 20 BYU (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Notre Dame (9-2) did not play. No. 22 LSU (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. New Orleans, Saturday.
No. 23 Texas A&M (9-2) did not play. No. 24 Ohio St. (8-2) did not play. Next: at UCLA, Sunday.

No. 25 North Carolina (9-0) did not play. Next: at Boston College, Sunday

| MEN'S NCAA | TOU  | IRNEY ODDS |      |
|------------|------|------------|------|
| Gonzaga    | 5-1  | Duke       | 15-2 |
| Purdue     | 8-1  | Kansas     | 10-1 |
| Baylor     | 14-1 | UCLA       | 16-1 |
| Texas      | 18-1 | Villanova  | 20-1 |
| Alabama    | 20-1 | Michigan   | 25-1 |

25-1 Ohio Stat 25-1 Kentucky

| AMERICAN (<br>EAST   | CO<br>W   | NFE<br>L  | REN<br>T   | ICE<br>PCT  | PF   | PA   |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| New England  | 9   | 4   | 0  | .692  |  |  |
| Buffalo  | 7   | 6   | 0  | .538  |  |  |
| Miami  | 6   | .7  | 0  | .462  |  |  |
| N.Y. Jets<br>SOUTH   | 3<br><b>W</b>   | 10<br>L   | 0<br><b>T</b>  | .231<br>PCT   | 226<br><b>PF</b>   | 39 /<br>PA   |
| Tennessee  | 9   | 4   | 0  | .692  | 324  |  |
| Indianapolis   | 7   | 6   | 0  | .538  |  |  |
| Houston  | 2   | 11  | Ô  | .154  |  |  |
| Jacksonville   | 2   | 11  | ō  | .154  | 180  | 340  |
| NORTH  | W   | L   | Ť  | PCT   | PF   | PA   |
| Baltimore  | 8   | 5   | 0  | .615  |  |  |
| Cincinnati   | 7   | 6   | 0  | .538  |  |  |
| Cleveland  | 7   | 6   | 0  | .538  |  |  |
| Pittsburgh<br>WEST   | 6<br><b>W</b>   | 6<br><b>L</b>   | 1<br>T   | .500<br>PCT   | 272<br><b>PF</b>   | 322<br><b>PA</b>   |
| Kansas City  | 9   | 4   | 0  | .692  | 351  | 268  |
| L.A. Chargers  | 8   | 5   | Ö  | .615  |  | 336  |
| Denver   | 7   | 6   | 0  | .538  | 275  | 228  |
| Las Vegas  | 6   | 7   | 0  | .462  | 283  | 360  |
| NATIONAL C   | 10:   | IFEF  | REN  | CE  |  |  |
| EAST   | w   |   |  |   |  |  |
|  | VV  | L   | Т  | PCT   | PF   | PA   |
| Dallas   | 9   | 4   | 0  | .692  | 380  | 287  |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia   | 9   | 4 7   | 0  | .692<br>.462  | 380<br>337   | 287<br>291   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington   | 9 6 6   | 4<br>7<br>7   | 0 0  | .692<br>.462<br>.462  | 380<br>337<br>266  | 287<br>291<br>324  |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia   | 9   | 4 7   | 0  | .692<br>.462  | 380<br>337<br>266  | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br>SOUTH   | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9  | 0 0 0  | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b>  | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>P</b> /   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b>  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b>  | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br><b>T</b>   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b>  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410   | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b>  |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br>SOUTH<br>Tampa Bay  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b>  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b>  | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br><b>T</b>   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b>  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245  | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>P</b> /<br>297<br>353   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br><b>SOUTH</b><br>Tampa Bay<br>Atlanta  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b>  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7                                      | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br><b>T</b>   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b><br>.769<br>.462<br>.462  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304   | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>P/</b><br>297<br>353<br>285   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br>SOUTH<br>Tampa Bay<br>Atlanta<br>New Orleans  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>6  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7                                      | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br><b>T</b>   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b><br>.769<br>.462<br>.462  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304   | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>285  |
| Dallas Philadelphia Washington N.Y. Giants SOUTH Tampa Bay Atlanta New Orleans Carolina NORTH Green Bay  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b>                                  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b>                | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T  | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b><br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br><b>PCT</b>                          | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b>   | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br><b>PA</b>   |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br><b>SOUTH</b><br>Tampa Bay<br>Atlanta<br>New Orleans<br>Carolina<br><b>MORTH</b><br>Green Bay<br>Minnesota | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b>                                  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7      | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462                        | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344   | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br><b>PA</b><br>272<br>333                               |
| Dallas Philadelphia Washington N.Y. Giants SOUTH Tampa Bay Atlanta New Orleans Carolina NORTH Green Bay Minnesota Chicago  | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>4                  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7      | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.308                | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344<br>231  | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>285<br>272<br>333<br>333                                     |
| Dallas<br>Philadelphia<br>Washington<br>N.Y. Giants<br><b>SOUTH</b><br>Tampa Bay<br>Atlanta<br>New Orleans<br>Carolina<br><b>MORTH</b><br>Green Bay<br>Minnesota | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b>                                  | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7      | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T   | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462                        | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344<br>231  | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br><b>PA</b><br>277<br>333<br>332<br>354                 |
| Dallas Philadelphia Washington N.Y. Giants SOUTH Tampa Bay Atlanta New Orleans Carolina NORTH Green Bay Minnesota Chicago Detroit                                | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b>                             | 4<br>7<br>7<br>9<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>9 | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0                               | .692<br>.462<br>.308<br><b>PCT</b><br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br><b>PCT</b><br>.769<br>.462<br>.308<br>.115  | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344<br>231<br>213<br><b>PF</b>                      | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>P</b> /<br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br><b>P</b> /<br>272<br>333<br>332<br>354<br><b>P</b> / |
| Dallas Philadelphia Washington N.Y. Giants SOUTH Tampa Bay Atlanta New Orleans Carolina NORTH Green Bay Minnesota Chicago Detroit WEST                           | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>4<br>1             | 3<br>7<br>8<br>L<br>3<br>7<br>9<br>11<br>L                                  | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>T      | .692<br>.462<br>.462<br>.308<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.308<br>.115<br>PCT | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344<br>231<br>213<br><b>PF</b>                      | 287<br>291<br>324<br>310<br><b>PA</b><br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br><b>PA</b><br>272<br>333<br>332<br>354<br><b>PA</b>    |
| Dallas Philadelphia Washington N.Y. Giants SOUTH Tampa Bay Atlanta New Orleans Carolina NORTH Green Bay Minnesota Chicago Detroit WEST Arizona                   | 9<br>6<br>6<br>4<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>5<br><b>W</b><br>10<br>6<br>4<br>1<br><b>W</b> | 3<br>7<br>7<br>8<br><b>L</b><br>3<br>7<br>9<br>11<br><b>L</b>               | 0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>T<br>T<br>0<br>0<br>0<br>1<br>T<br>T | .692<br>.462<br>.308<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.385<br>PCT<br>.769<br>.462<br>.308<br>.115<br>PCT         | 380<br>337<br>266<br>232<br><b>PF</b><br>410<br>245<br>304<br>257<br><b>PF</b><br>328<br>344<br>231<br>213<br><b>PF</b><br>366<br>366<br>329 | 310<br>PA<br>297<br>353<br>285<br>282<br>PA<br>272<br>333<br>354<br>PA<br>254<br>293<br>301                                |

gers, late SATURDAY'S GAMES

New England at Indianapolis, 8:20p.m. SUNDAY'S GAMES

Arizona at Detroit, 1p.m. Carolina at Buffalo, 1p.m. Dallas at N.Y. Giants, 1p.m. Houston at Jacksonville, 1p.m. N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1p.m. Tennessee at Pittsburgh, 1n.m. Washington at Philadelphia, 1p.m. Atlanta at San Francisco, 4:05p.m. Cincinnati at Denver, 4:05n.m. Green Bay at Baltimore, 4:25p.m. Seattle at L.A. Rams, 4:25p.m. New Orleans at Tampa Bay, 8:20p.m.

MONDAY'S GAME Minnesota at Chicago, 8:15p.m.

**WEEK 16** THURSDAY, DEC. 23 San Francisco at Tennessee, 8:20p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 25 Cleveland at Green Bay, 4:30p.m. Indianapolis at Arizona, 8:15p.m.

**SUNDAY, DEC. 26** Baltimore at Cincinnati, 1p.m. Buffalo at New England, 1p.m. Detroit at Atlanta, 1p.m. Jacksonville at N.Y. Jets, 1p.m. L.A. Chargers at Houston, 1p.m. L.A. Rams at Minnesota, 1p.m. N.Y. Giants at Philadelphia, 1p.m. Tampa Bay at Carolina, 1p.m. Chicago at Seattle, 4:05p.m. Denver at Las Vegas, 4:25p.m. Pittsburgh at Kansas City, 4:25p.m. Washington at Dallas, 8:20p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 27 Miami at New Orleans, 8:15p.m.

SEASON TEAM GAME HIGHS MOST POINTS 54, New England vs. New York 10/24 48, Tampa Bay vs. Atlanta 9/19 48, Kansas City vs. Las Vegas 12/12 47, L.A. Chargers vs. Cleveland 10/10 45, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 45, Indianapolis vs. New York 11/5 45, New England vs. Cleveland 11/14 45, Buffalo at New York 11/14 45, Green Bay vs. Chicago 12/13

FEWEST POINTS 0, Jacksonville at Tennessee 12/12 0, Houston vs. Indianapolis 12/5 0, Seattle at Green Bay 11/14 0, Houston at Buffalo 10/3 0, N.Y. Jets at Denver 9/26 0, Miami vs. Buffalo 9/19 MOST TOTAL YARDS

571, Minnesota at Carolina 10/17 567, Dallas at New England 10/17 558, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 551, New England vs. New York 10/24 533, L.A. Chargers vs. Pittsburgh 11/22 MOST RUSHING YARDS

270, Tennessee at New England 11/28 264, Indianapolis at Buffalo 11/21 260, Indianapolis vs. New York 11/5 251, Baltimore vs. Kansas City 9/20 247, Baltimore vs. Minnesota 11/7 NET PASSING YARDS 452, Tampa Bay vs. Miami 10/10 445, Dallas at New England 10/17 442, Baltimore vs. Indianapolis 10/12

435, Las Vegas vs. Baltimore 9/14 432, Tampa Bay at Los Angeles 9/26 TIMES SACKED BY OPPONENT 9, Chicago at Cleveland 9/26 TURNOVERS 5, Houston at Buffalo 10/3

5, Chicago at Tampa Bay 10/24 5, Miami vs. Houston 11/7 5, N.Y. Jets vs. Buffalo 11/14 5, Tennessee vs. Houston 1½1 5, Indianapolis vs. Tampa Bay 1½8 5, Las Vegas at Kansas City 12/12 MOST FIRST DOWNS 36, Baltimore vs. Minnesota 11/7
TIME OF POSSESSION

18:25, Houston vs. Indianapolis 12/5 **NFL TAKE-AWAYS GIVE-AWAYS** 

TAKE GIVE 29 6 10 16 +13 26 8 8 16 +10 26 12 6 18 +8 18 11 3 14 +4 16 7 7 14 +2 16 9 6 15 +1 21 13 7 20 +1 23 12 11 23 0 Indianapolis 15 14 29 New England 19 7 26 Buffalo 16 10 26 L.A. Chargers 10 8 18 Cleveland 11 5 16 Denver 12 4 16 Houston 14 7 21 Cleveland 11 5 Denver 12 4 Houston 14 7 Kansas City 13 10 11 9 20 10 10 20 8 5 13 8 7 15 13 5 18 13 8 21 Miami Cincinnati 11 6 5 8 17 13

| Las vegas                  | J   | O    | 13       | 10    | - 1    | 11   |     |
|----------------------------|-----|------|----------|-------|--------|------|-----|
| Baltimore                  | 6   | 5    | 11       | 14    | 6      | 20   | -6  |
| N.Y. Jets                  | 4   | 5    | 9        | 20    | 5      | 25   | -16 |
| Jacksonville               | 5   | 1    | 6        | 14    | 11     | 25   | -19 |
| Totals 1                   | 173 | 109  | 282      | 181   | L19    | 300  | -18 |
| NFC                        | 1   | F    | Т        | ı     | F      | Т    | TC  |
| Green Bay                  | 14  | 8    | 22       | 5     | 5      | 10   | +12 |
| Arizona                    | 12  | 11   | 23       | 10    | 3      | 13   | +10 |
| Dallas                     | 20  | 7    | 27       | 11    | 7      | 18   | +9  |
| Tampa Bay                  |     |      | 25       |       |        |      |     |
| L.A. Rams                  | 14  |      | 19       |       |        | 14   |     |
| Minnesota                  | 11  |      | 16       |       |        |      | +5  |
| Seattle                    | 7   |      | 13       |       |        |      | +3  |
| N.Y. Giants<br>New Orleans |     | 6    | 19<br>17 |       | 6<br>5 |      | +2  |
|                            |     |      | 13       |       |        |      |     |
| Philadelphia               |     |      |          |       | 5      |      |     |
| San Francisc               |     |      | 16       |       |        |      |     |
| Detroit                    | 8   | 6    | 14       |       |        |      |     |
| Atlanta                    | 8   |      | 15       |       |        | 20   |     |
| Carolina                   |     | 7    | 15       |       | 6      |      |     |
| Washington                 |     |      | 13       |       |        | 21   | -8  |
| Chicago                    | 5   | 6    | 11       | 16    | 6      | 22   | -11 |
| Totals 1                   | 172 | 106  | 278      | 164   | 96     | 260  | +18 |
| I-interceptio              | ns, | F-fi | mble     | es; T | tot    | al;  |     |
| TO-turnover                | ma  | ırgi | n; th    | roug  | hИ     | /eek | 13  |
|                            |     |      |          |       |        |      |     |

WTA OPEN BLS DE LIMOGES Thursday at Palais des Sports de Beau blanc, Limoges, France; out.-hard WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 16 #2 Alison Van Uytvanck d. Tatjana Maria, 6-2, 6-3.

#4 Greet Minnen d. Stefanie Voegele. 6-4, 6-2. #5 Varvara Gracheva d. Cristina Bucsa, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2, #6 Vera Zvonareva d. Nina Stojanovic, #7 Kristina Mladenovic d.

Ulrikke Eikeri, 7-5, 6-2. Jessika Ponchet d. Polona Hercog, 6-3, 6-4.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** 

NCAA FCS SEMIFINALS Friday: North Dakota St. (12-1) vs. James Madison (12-1), 9:15 p.m. Saturday: Montana State (11-2) vs. South Dakota State (11-3), 2 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION II PLAYOFFS SATURDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP McKinnev (Tex.) ISD Stadium Ferris St. (13-0) vs. Valdosta St. (12-1), 9 p.m.

NCAA DIVISION III PLAYOFFS FRIDAY'S CHAMPIONSHIP Mary Hardin-Baylor (14-0) vs. North Central (III.) (14-0), 7p.m.

**UPCOMING BOWL GAMES** FRIDAY'S GAMES

Bahamas BowlNassau, Bahamas Toledo (7-5) vs. Mid. Tenn. (6-6), noon Cure Bowl. Orlando. Fla. N. Illinois (9-4) vs. C. Carolina (10-2), 6 p.m.

SATURDAY'S GAMES Boca Raton Bowl, Boca Raton, Fla. W. Ky (8-5) vs. Appal. St. (10-3), 11a.m. Celebration Bowl, Atlanta SC St. (6-5) vs. Jackson St. (11-1), noon New Mexico Bowl, Albuquerque Fresno St. (9-3) vs. UTEP (7-5), 2:15p.m. Independence Bowl, Shreveport, La. #12BYU (10-2) vs. UAB (8-4), 3:30p.m. LendingTree Bowl, Mobile, Ala. E. Michigan (7-5) vs. Liberty (7-5), 5:45 p.m. LA Bowl, Inglewood, Calif. Oregon St. (7-5) vs. Utah St. (10-3), 7:30 p.m. New Orleans Bowl, New Orleans #16 La-Laf. (12-2) vs. Marshall (7-5), 9:15 p.m.

**MONDAY'S GAME** Myrtle Beach Bowl, Conway, S.C. Old Dominion (6-6) vs. Tulsa (6-6), 2:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, DEC. 21 Famous Idaho Potato, Boise, Idaho Kent St (7-6) vs. Wyoming (6-6), 3:30 p.m. Frisco Bowl, Frisco, Texas #24 UTSA (12-1) vs. S. Diego St. (11-2), 7p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22 Armed Forces Bowl, Fort Worth, Texas Missouri (6-6) vs. Army (8-3), 8p.m

THURSDAY, DEC. 23 Frisco Football Classic, Frisco, Texas Miami (7-5) vs. N. Texas (6-6), 3:30p.m. Gasparilla Bowl, Tampa, Fla. UCF (8-4) vs. Florida (6-6), 7p.m.

Hawaii Bowl, Honolulu Memphis (6-6) vs. Hawaii (6-7), 8p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 24

SATURDAY, DEC. 25 Camellia Bowl, Montgomery, Ala. Ball State (6-6) vs. Ga. St. (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

**Ouick Lane Bowl** Nevada (8-4) vs. W. Mich. (7-5), 11a.m. Military Bowl, Annapolis, Md. Bos Coll. (6-6) vs. E. Carolina (7-5), 2:30 p.m.

Birmingham Bowl, Birmingham, Ala. #21 Houston (11-2) vs. Auburn (6-6), noon SERVPRO First Responder Bowl, Dallas Air Force (9-3) vs. Louisville (6-6), 3:15 p.m. **Liberty Bowl, emphis, Tenn.**Miss St. (7-5) vs. TX Tech (6-6), 6:45p.m. Holidav Bowl, San Diego UCLA (8-4) vs. NC State (9-3), 8p.m. Guaranteed Rate Bowl, Phoenix Minnesota (8-4) vs. W. Va (6-6), 10:15 p.m.

Fenway Bowl, Boston Virginia (6-6) vs. SMU (8-4), 11a.m. Pinstripe Bowl, New York City Va. Tech (6-6) vs. Maryland (6-6), 2:15 p.m. Cheez-It Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #19 Clemson (9-3) vs. Iowa St. (7-5), 5:45 p.m. Alamo Bowl. San Antonio #14 Okla. (10-2) vs. #15 Oregon (10-3), 9:15 a.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 30 Duke's Mayo Bowl, Charlotte, N.C. S. Carolina (6-6) vs. N. Carolina (6-6), 11:30 a.m. Music City Bowl, Nashville Purdue (8-4) vs. Tennessee (7-5), 3p.m. Peach Bowl, Atlanta #11 Mich St. (10-2) vs. #13 Pitt (11-2), 7 p.m. **Las Vegas Bowl, Las Vegas** Wisconsin (8-4) vs. Arizona St. (8-4), 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DEC. 31 College Football Playoff Semifinal (Orange Bowl), Miami Gardens, Fla. #2 Michigan (12-1) vs. #3 Georgia (12-1), 7:30 p.m. **College Football Playoff Semifinal** #1Alabama (12-1) vs. #4Cincinnati (13-0), 7:30p.m. Gator Bowl, Jacksonville, Fla. #20Wake Forest (10-3) vs. #23Texas A&M (8-4), 10a,m. Sun Bowl, El Paso, Texas Wash. St. (7-5) vs. Miami (7-5), noon

C. Mich. (8-4) vs. Boise St. (7-5), 4:30 p.m. SATURDAY, JAN. 1 Outback Bowl, Tampa, Fla. #22 Arkansas (8-4) vs. Penn St. (7-5), noon Citrus Bowl, Orlando, Fla. #17 lowa (10-3) vs. #25 Kentucky (9-3), 1 p.m. Fiesta Bowl, Glendale, Ariz. #5Notre Dame (11-1) vs

Arizona Bowl, Tucson, Ariz.

#90klahoma St. (11-2), 1p.m. Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif. #7 Ohio St. (10-2) vs. #10 Utah (10-3). 5 p.m. **Sugar Bowl, New Orleans** #6 Baylor (11-2) vs. #8 Miss. (10-2), 8:30 p.m.

Texas Bowl, Houston LSU (6-6) vs. Kansas St. (7-5), 9p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 8 **CFP Championship Game, Indianapolis** Semifinal winners, 8p.m.

GP W D L GF GA PT

# **ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE**

**TUESDAY, JAN, 4** 

|                |    |    | _ |       |    |    |
|----------------|----|----|---|-------|----|----|
| Man City       | 17 | 13 | 2 | 2 40  | 9  | 41 |
| Liverpool      | 17 | 12 | 4 | 1 48  | 13 | 40 |
| Chelsea        | 17 | 11 | 4 | 2 39  | 12 | 37 |
| Arsenal        | 17 | 9  | 2 | 6 23  | 22 | 29 |
| West Ham       | 17 | 8  | 4 | 5 28  | 21 | 28 |
| Man United     | 16 | 8  | 3 | 5 26  | 24 | 27 |
| Tottenham      | 14 | 8  | 1 | 5 16  | 17 | 25 |
| Wolverhampton  | 17 | 7  | 3 | 7 13  | 14 | 24 |
| Leicester      | 16 | 6  | 4 | 6 27  | 27 | 22 |
| Aston Villa    | 17 | 7  | 1 | 9 23  | 25 | 22 |
| Crystal Palace | 17 | 4  | 8 | 5 24  | 24 | 20 |
| Brentford      | 16 | 5  | 5 | 6 21  | 22 | 20 |
| Brighton       | 16 | 4  | 8 | 4 14  | 17 | 20 |
| Everton        | 17 | 5  | 4 | 8 21  | 29 | 19 |
| Southampton    | 17 | 3  | 8 | 6 16  | 26 | 17 |
| Leeds          | 17 | 3  | 7 | 7 17  | 32 | 16 |
| Watford        | 16 | 4  | 1 | 11 21 | 31 | 13 |
| Burnley        | 15 | 1  | 8 | 6 14  | 21 | 11 |
| Newcastle      | 17 | 1  | 7 | 9 18  | 37 | 10 |
| Norwich        | 17 | 2  | 4 | 11 8  | 34 | 10 |
|                |    |    |   |       |    |    |

THURSDAY'S RESULTS Chelsea 1, Everton 1 Liverpool 3. Newcastle 1 Leicester vs. Tottenham, ppd

SATURDAY'S MATCHES Aston Villa vs. Burnley, 10a.m. Leeds vs. Arsenal, 12:30p.m. Man United vs. Brighton, 7:30a.m. ppd Southampton vs. Brentford, 10a.m. ppd Watford vs. Crystal Palace, 10a.m. ppd West Ham vs. Norwich, 10a.m. ppd SUNDAY'S MATCHES

Wolverhampton vs. Chelsea, 9a.m. Newcastle vs. Man City, 9:15a.m. Tottenham vs. Liverpool, 11:30a.m. Everton vs. Leicester, 7a.m. ppd SUNDAY, DEC. 26

Liverpool vs. Leeds, 7:30a.m. Wolverhampton vs. Watford, 7:30a.m. Burnley vs. Everton, 10a.m. Man City vs. Leicester, 10a.m. Norwich vs. Arsenal, 10a.m. Tottenham vs. Crystal Palace, 10a.m. West Ham vs. Southampton, 10a.m. Aston Villa vs. Chelsea, 12:30p.m. Brighton vs. Brentford, 3p.m.

**MONDAY, DEC. 27** Newcastle vs. Man United, 3p.m.

U.S. MEN'S SCHEDULE (17-2-2) **Saturday:** vs. Bosnia-Herzegovina, 8 p.m. Dignity Health Sports Park, Carson, Calif. q-Jan. 27, 2022: vs. El Salvador, TBD **q-Jan. 30:** vs. Canada, TBD q-World Cup qualifying



Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton leads Sunday at the start of the Formula One Abu Dhabi Grand Prix in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. HASSAN AMMAR/AP

## **AUTO RACING**

# Mercedes ends F1 finale fight

By Jenna Fryer Associated Press

ABU DHABI. United Arab Emirates — Mercedes ended the dispute over the Formula One season finale on Thursday when it withdrew its appeal of the controversial finish that cost Lewis Hamilton

a record eighth title. Mercedes had filed a pair of protests following Sunday's race, in which a late crash at the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix helped Max Verstappen beat Hamilton for the title. Both protests were dismissed and Mercedes then asked for reconsideration at the International Court of Appeal, which could have dragged into next year.

"We left Abu Dhabi in disbelief of what we had just witnessed," Mercedes said in a statement. "Of course, it's part of the game to lose a race, but it's something different when you lose faith in racing."

Mercedes was protesting the use of the safety car following a crash with five laps remaining. Hamilton had a nearly 12-second lead with Verstappen in second when the crash led to the yellow flag. Verstappen pitted for fresh tires while Hamilton stayed on track. The race director initially said lapped drivers could not pass the safety car, then reversed the call in a decision that returned Verstappen to second when the race resumed with a lap remaining. Verstappen then passed Hamilton to win his first world championship; Hamilton was denied a record eighth title, one more than Michael Schumacher.

Mercedes said Thursday, ahead of the season-ending gala in Paris later in the evening, that it decided with Hamilton not to move forward with the appeal. Hamilton and Mercedes team principal Toto Wolff both skipped the gala, and Mercedes did not send its constructors' title-winning cars to Paris for photographs.

"I won't be there because of my loyalty to Lewis and because of my own personal integrity," Wolff said.

The Mercedes protest was over safety car rules that "were applied in a new way that affected the race result, after Lewis had been in a commanding lead and on course to win (the championship)" and Mercedes said its appeal was "in the interest of sporting fairness." Mercedes said it was satisfied after discussions with both the FIA and Formula One over clarity on the rules "so that all competitors know the rules under which they are racing, and

how they will be enforced." The FIA late Wednesday said it will conduct an analysis of the ending and acknowledged the controversy is "tarnishing the image of the championship." The FIA delivered a report on the incident to the World Motor Sport Council in Paris and said a further review will help understand the ending.

"We welcome the decision by the FIA to install a commission to thoroughly analyze what happened in Abu Dhabi and to improve the robustness of rules, governance and decision making in Formula 1. We also welcome that they have invited the teams and drivers to take part," Mercedes said.

Mercedes also congratulated Verstappen and Red Bull, and called the 24-year-old Dutchman a "flawless sportsman on and off the track" who "delivered a faultless performance."

# IN BRIEF

# NFL updates protocols due to COVID-19 cases

News services

In moves reminiscent of the environment for the 2020 season, the NFL has updated its protocols and advocated for booster shots in reaction to an increase in COVID-19 cases around the league.

As part of its protocol changes, it is requiring masks regardless of vaccination status, and remote or outdoor meetings. It also is stopping in-person meals, adding restrictions on activities outside the facility, prohibiting outside visitors during team travel, and limiting the amount of people in weight rooms.

"Finally, and based on expert advice, we will adjust the return-to-participation requirements for those who have recovered from COVID-19," the league said in a statement. "All of these changes are grounded in our data and science-backed approach, with safety our No. 1 goal for the entire NFL commu-

The updated protocols will be enforced through Week 15 games, but are likely to continue or be strengthened after.

■ Browns backup quarterback Case Keenum, who was slotted to start Saturday with Baker Mayfield sidelined after testing positive with COVID-19. has also tested positive for the virus.

College basketball: Rising coronavirus concerns hit college basketball Thursday, with officials calling off two Top 25 men's games this weekend. The game between No. 15 Ohio State and No. 21 Kentucky in the CBS Sports Classic in Las Vegas was canceled because of positive COVID-19 results within the Buckeyes program. On the East Coast, No. 16 Seton Hall canceled Saturday's game against Iona in the Gotham Classic game at Madison Square Garden in New York because of COVID-19 issues within the Pirates' program.

**NBA:** Russell Westbrook entered the NBA's health and safety protocols Thursday, joining Bucks' Giannis Antetokounmpo and Nets' James Harden as past league MVP's currently sidelined by coronavirus concerns.

COVERAGE PRESENTED BY R&D RisCassi & Davis Protecting the rights of the injured for more than 60 years



Farmington's Jahkai Veal tries to slow Northwest Catholic's Matthew Curtis on Thursday. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

# **Farmington**

said. "It's nice to play in front of a crowd again. It's nice when you hit an and-one, or someone else does something awesome and you hear the roar of the crowd, it's really excellent."

Northwest coach John Mirabello has coached against Witter, who is in his 23rd season of coaching, for over two decades.

"It was so great to see Duane

out here," Mirabello said. "We've been going against each other for so long. That was the best part of my night, to see him."

Witter's team won the Division III state title in 2019. That June he was diagnosed with leukemia. By November he was in remission and coaching and teaching again.

We had a great team, we were making a run and then COVID hit," he said. "Then seven months after I had achieved remission, the leukemia came back. The second time around, I needed a bone marrow

transplant, Myson, Trey, who played for me here, he was my donor.

"It's a year of recovery. I wasn't able to coach at all last year or teach. I had four months of physical therapy. All that led to me being able to be available at the beginning of this year.

"I'm waiting for my hair to grow back. I feel stronger every day, building my endurance. And I'm happy to be here."

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

# Amore

from Page 1

magical things where everybody was feeling, all the UConn people were feeling, the same thing at the same time.

Fair or unfair, the crumbling of the Big East — and the world as UConn athletics knew it - came on Herbst's watch. And so did the joyous return to the Big East after seven mostly unhappy years in the American Athletic Conference just before she left

COVID-19 made last season a "soft open" for UConn's return, but the filled buildings and fullthroated roar of Big East men's basketball fittingly returns with Providence at the XL Center on Saturday at 5 p.m.

"Super excited, as all the UConn fans are about it," Herbst said. "I'm very sentimental about it. It was a long road to get back in. But when I became president, we were in the Big East. Then a few months later, things started falling apart. It was really an emotional roller coaster, a very tough one for me personally."

Named president on Dec. 20, 2010, she took office on June 1, 2011, dates that sandwiched UConn's third national championship. The subsequent unraveling of the original Big East is an excruciating story told many times. The seven Catholic, non-football-playing schools formed their own conference in December 2012. UConn ended up in the American Athletic Conference, winning the national championship in 2014 to redeem the program from its March Madness exile. But it became appar-

ent very quickly that the new slate of conference rivals would never bring the same electricity to Gampel Pavilion or the XL Center.

"We just felt like we were losing our home," Herbst said. "Look, the American worked out well. [Commissioner] Mike Aresco did a fine job. I think we were critical in building that conference, but we always felt the Big East was our home and we were away from our place."

UConn played former Big East rival Georgetown in a nonconference game on Jan. 23, 2016, selling out the XL Center with 15,564 fans. As the building pulsated before the game, Herbst walked up to my baseline seat and whispered, "This is what we've been missing. We need more of this."

The floor pounding, rafters-rattling atmosphere of the Big East had to be brought back somehow, someway. The women's program would be fine regardless of conference, but something would have to be figured out for football.

Gradually, the complex negotiations, with their financial implications, happened. In June 2019, UConn orchestrated its move to the new Big East and football independence.

"We didn't know how we would carry any of this off," Herbst said. "It was a slow evolution. If we could do that, get the basketball programs back to the Big East, how could we help the football program to thrive and not leave it aside? And that was all on [director of athletics] Dave Benedict. He's a football guy, and he worked on every possible scenario for us. One of the things I don't know if anyone will ever understand, outside of his fellow

ADs, is how hard it was hard it was to envision the independent schedule and how incredibly great the whole thing worked out."

OK, let's tap the breaks on that one. Benedict assembled several years of football schedules filled with impressive opponents, but coming off a 1-11 inaugural season as an independent, the jury is a long way from rendering a decision on that part of it.

"My head was in the Big East," Herbst said. "I was so thrilled to be back in the Big East, I knew I could depend on Dave to work through football. And the fact we attracted a really good coach [Jim Mora] is part of the evidence it is working out. Hope springs eternal with our football.

So here we are, on the eve of the true return of the Big East in Connecticut. The kind of Saturday so many recruits signed on for but never got to experience. The kind of day fans worried would never come again.

Herbst, who left the presidency in August 2019 and returned to teaching, won't be there. She has children coming in for the holi-

She says she will be at some games and plans to be anchored at Madison Square Garden for the Big East Tournament in March. And if she is remembered as the president who brought UConn back home to the Big East, she'd consider it a proud distinction.

"That's absolutely OK with me," she said. "That's a very fine thing. Basketball for us is about excellence. I'm a college professor, but I like my basketball."

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

# **PATRIOTS**

# Van Noy explains synergy between himself, Hightower

**By Andrew Callahan** 

Boston Herald

FOXBOROUGH, Mass.-ThePatriots treat their linebackers almost interchangeably.

They rotate them from series to series. They play them off the ball and on the edge. Through these changes, their defense maintains a critical element of unpredictability.

Specific to Kyle Van Noy and Dont'a Hightower, two of the Pats' most versatile linebackers, it helps that they share a football brain. "We're at the point where I just

have to look at him," Van Noy said Thursday, "and he knows what I'm thinking, and I know what he's thinking." Early on, though, Van Noy

remembers a different relationship. Around the time he was acquired from Detroit in a 2016 midseason trade, the Patriots shipped Jamie Collins to Cleveland. That stripped Hightower of one of his closest friends in the locker room.

According to Van Noy, who had clearly become Collins' replacement, Hightower didn't warm up to him.

"Unfortunately we traded our guy Jamie — we're all brothers now so I'm able to talk about it so (Hightower) didn't like me for a little bit, right?" Van Noy recalled. "At first, I had to ask him where I had to go on plays and I told myself, 'By the time I've been here for a month, I'm not going to ask him where I need to go on a play,' because he already has the green (play-caller's) dot."

Instead, Van Noy says he committed himself to working 16-hours days that season and mastered the Patriots defense within his targeted goal of one month. Van Noy's synergy with Hightower simultaneously grew with his understanding of the playbook. Soon enough, they were predicting offensive plays together before the snap.

Harris listed as questionable: Running back Damien Harris and safety Adrian Phillips were among the nine players listed as questionable on the team's final injury report Thursday. Both players left the team's Dec. 6 win at Buffalo early due to injury, and were limited in practice this

# Giants

from Page 1

the rest of the league.

So this is all about 2022 now. Jones is definitely "frustrated," Jerry Schuplinski said, but he's been handling this uncertainty

"I don't think any of us like not being a part of it," said the Giants quarterbacks coach, who was quarantined in his hotel room all of last week in Arizona due to a positive COVID-19 test. "I made sure I stayed in contact, calling him on the side seeing how he's doing, because I couldn't be there in person."

"But I'm impressed with him," Schuplinski added. "He's continued with that leadership role of staying in all the younger quarterbacks' ears. He's even helping Mike [Glennon] during the game with things he sees. So I think he's frustrated, he wants to get out here because he's really competitive. But he's doing the best he can with the situation he has right now."

Jones has not spoken to the media since Dec. 1, a day after his injury was first made public. He's been on the practice field throwing normally. Judge said he's not limited physically in any way by the injury, other than not being cleared for contact.

That has probably made the injury and missed game time more difficult to understand and accept, but Judge and Kitchens clearly are pleased with what Jones showed on the field through that Nov. 28 win over the Philadelphia Eagles.

"Daniel has gotten increasingly better every day he's come out on the field in some area," Kitchens said. "With any young player, you want to see a trajectory going upwards. And I think that's what you see with Daniel."

There is a school of thought that Kitchens shouldn't even be calling designed running plays for his QB like the one that got him hurt in the first quarter against the Eagles.

The Giants' play-caller defended that decision on Thursday, though.

"You definitely think of those things," Kitchens said of the potential for injury, "but you also try to use the players' strengths to your advantage, and that's what separates Daniel from a lot of quarterbacks. You take that away from him, and I think you make him a lesser player. And we're in the business of trying to make guys better players."

Leaning on Jones' running ability obviously is only a part of the Giants' vision for this offense.

If Saquon Barkley, Kenny Golladay, Sterling Shepard and Kadarius Toney all were consistently healthy, and if the Giants had a better offensive line. Jones' running could simply be a complement to all of those other weapons.

One of the problems this season is that the line was horrible and none of those players stayed healthy. Jones doesn't mind trying to carry a team, but that's not a sustainable way to win or keep the QB healthy

Jackson tests positive: Unvaccinated Giants corner Adoree' Jackson has tested positive for COVID-19 and is out for Sunday's game against the Dallas Cowboys, on top of unvaccinated corner Aaron Robinson, Jackson becomes the sixth COVID positive among Giants players since Monday — some vaccinated, some not — and the seventh player to go on the reserve list.

# **BRUINS**

# Team puts 3 more players in COVID-19 protocol

Associated Press

The Boston Bruins placed forwards Anton Blidh and Trent Frederic and goalie Jeremy Swayman in the NHL's COVID-19 protocol on Thursday.

With the number of coronavirus cases and game postponements rising across the league, the addition of Blidh, Frederic and Swayman gave the Bruins six players in the protocol. One team staff member also was placed on the list Thursday.

Patrice Bergeron, leading scorer

Brad Marchand and fellow forward Craig Smith went on the protocol list earlier this week. Bergeron entered Wednesday, one day after Marchand and Smith. All six players could be out until late Decem-

Coach Bruce Cassidy, who tested positive Nov. 30, just rejoined the team on Monday.

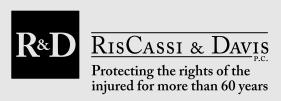
The Nashville Predators also have been hit hard, announcing Thursday that assistant coach Dan Hinote had been added to the protocol list.



If your car is pulling to the left or right, or if you hear odd noises when you apply the brakes, you should inspect your brakes immediately.

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# NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

## **SHORTS**

# Hype mounting for Woods' return



The father of Justin Thomas got the first look at Tiger Woods playing a round of golf since his car crash 10 months ago and saw more than he expected. "It's crazy how good he's hitting — and far he's hitting — for what he's been through," Mike Thomas said Thursday at the PNC Championship. Next up for

Woods is playing in front of an audience. It's one thing for the 15-time major champion to play with 12-year-old son Charlie, with Mike Thomas along for the ride, last week near his home in south Florida. It's another to tee it up in front of thousands of spectators and on network TV. Only 10 months ago, Woods shattered bones in his right leg, ankle and foot when the SUV he was driving along a winding suburban road in Los Angeles crashed through a median and down a hill. Woods was immobilized for three months in a makeshift hospital bed in his house. He went from crutches to slowly walking. He was hitting balls on the back end of the range at Albany during his Hero World Challenge two weeks ago in the Bahamas. Woods was not expected until the Friday pro-am.

## Hawks settle lawsuit with Beach



The Blackhawks and a former player who said he was sexually assaulted by an assistant coach have settled a lawsuit that eviscerated the franchise's once-sterling reputation and shook up the NHL, bringing questions about the sport's culture back to the forefront. The confidential settlement

was announced after the sides met Wednesday with a mediator for the first time. Former first-round pick Kyle Beach and Blackhawks CEO Danny Wirtz, the son of team owner Rocky Wirtz, participated in the Zoom session. "The Blackhawks hope that this resolution will bring some measure of peace and closure for Mr. Beach," the team said in a statement attributed to Rocky and Danny Wirtz, and Susan Loggans, Beach's attorney. Loggans also is part of a second lawsuit filed in May by a former high school student whom Brad Aldrich was convicted of assaulting in Michigan. That suit is still pending, but the sides plan to meet again in the future to discuss a resolution. The Blackhawks said as late as mid-May that Beach's allegations lacked merit.

# Williamson gets additional treatment



Zion Williamson has received a biologic injection that is meant to promote bone healing in the area of his right foot that he fractured this past offseason. The Pelicans, who announced the new treatment for the face of the franchise on Thursday, said Williamson will be "limited to low-impact, partial

weight-bearing activities for an extended period." Another round of imaging on Williamson's foot is expected to be performed in four to six weeks, the club said, at which point there could be an update on his condition. The club said the injection was given following consultation on Wednesday with Dr. Richard Ferkel of the Southern California Orthopedic Institute. The additional treatment came six days after the Pelicans announced last Saturday that Williamson had experienced a "regression" in his surgically repaired right foot, further delaying his longawaited return to the court. That was the second setback since Williamson was cleared in late November to participate in five-on-five practices at full speed. The Pelicans have started this season 9-21 without Williamson.

Urban Meyer's NFL tenure ended after 13 games and two wins when the Jaguars fired him Thursday. JOHN MCCOY/AP

**NFL** COMMENTARY

# Push came to shove

Meyer learns that bullies run out of rope fast in NFL

By Jim Litke Associated Press

There's a dozen good reasons why college coaches rarely make a successful jump to the NFL. Leave it to Urban Meyer to trip over the dumbest one.

After 13 games packed with more missteps than a Master P appearance on "Dancing With the Stars," Meyer was still treating grown men like kids, still behaving like he was the king on a campus somewhere. Still sloganeering, blustering at some and blaming everybody else at the drop of a pass. But there's a reason bullies run out of rope a lot faster in the pros. It's because the guys holding onto the other end have contracts, too.

In that sense, Meyer's firing hardly qualifies as a surprise. And it hardly matters whether the final straw was the report in a Florida newspaper about Meyer kicking a former kicker in disgust back in training camp last August. Jaguars owner Shad Khan had so many gaffes to choose from that the statement he released Thursday — "an immediate change is imperative for everyone" — could have been written shortly after his coach got caught grinding in a bar in late September.

Or anytime last month, when Meyer's offense was wheezing out an average of less than 10 points a game en route to losing five in a row. Or just this past Monday, for that matter, when a reporter asked Meyer whether safety Andre Cisco would get more playing

"Cisco is playing a little bit more, I believe," he said. "I don't have his numbers in front of me."

Since Meyer hadn't bothered to look,

here they are: Cisco recorded exactly zero plays on defense in an embarrass-

ing 20-0 loss at Tennessee a day earlier. Rather than mull over why Meyer's NFL tenure was the fastest flameout since that other paragon of virtue, Bobby Petrino, walked out on the Falcons in 2007, here's a better question: How was Meyer so successful for so long in the college game pulling a lot

of the same shenanigans? We know he was slapping motivational signs all over Jaguars' facility, as he had at all his other stops, because his former players tore them down shortly after news of Meyer's firing reached the place. We know he arguing with players and berating his assistants as "losers" in Jacksonville, because those happened out in the open. What's the chance the 57-year-old Meyer only developed those nasty habits late in

Now, to be fair, someone who wins three national championships and builds success at every school he's coached doesn't lack for talent or brains. Early on in his career, the 57-year-old Meyer displayed plenty of both, and his recruiting skills throughout took a backseat perhaps only to the

devil himself. At Bowling Green (2001-02) and Utah (2003-04), Meyer was a pioneer and loud advocate for the spread offense that opened up the college game and caught on with a few of his influential NFL brethren (think Chiefs coach Andy Reid). To Florida (2005-10), he brought intensity and an attention to detail that few of his college counterparts could match. At Ohio State (2012-18), he became more a CEO than a coach, letting assistants handle most of the on-field scheming while he made sure the program's advantages more money, bigger staffs and better facilities - continued to pull in the best

Winning, though, wasn't the only thing that marked Meyer's college years. Those last two stops produced national championships, but way too much drama. At Florida, 31 of his players were arrested during his five years there. At Ohio State, he was put on paid administrative leave after claiming he was unaware that Buckeyes receivers coach Zach Smith, who was arrested on a domestic-abuse charge in 2009 while an assistant on Meyer's Florida staff, was alleged to have committed the same abuse again in 2015.

"Urban Meyer's had a winning record. Really phenomenal record everywhere he's been. But also," Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh said presciently back in 2019, "controversy follows everywhere he's been."

Harbaugh, a rival, may have to revise that first part, but the second part still stands. When Khan lured Meyer out of the broadcast booth with a more-than-generous offer to rebuild the Jaguars with a franchise quarterback, Trevor Lawrence, fresh out of the draft, both men should have known what they were getting.

We can attribute Khan being "bitterly disappointed" – as his statement put it – to naivete. He apparently focused on what Meyer had accomplished without delving too deep into how. But Meyer forgot, or figured it didn't matter, that he wouldn't get to pick his own players and yell, threaten and apparently even kick them whenever his mood soured. The men he found in the Jacksonville locker room on arrival didn't need empty slogans or reality-TV drama to motivate them. The fact that they made it to the NFL was plenty proof of that.

Once they figured out he didn't have anything to teach them, accountability was no longer a one-way street.

## **COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

# Swinney navigating changes to his staff

**Associated Press** 

Clemson coach Dabo Swinney kept getting calls and texts from friends and colleagues asking how he was doing

Swinney and his championship football program underwent a shakeup unlike anything he had faced in 13-plus seasons as Tigers coach. Defensive coordinator Brent Venables left to become head coach at Oklahoma. Offensive leader Tony Elliott is now the Virginia head coach and

athletic director Dan Radakovich left Clemson to take the same job at Miami.

All trusted confidants, all significant contributors to Clemson's success the past

"Trust me," Swinney said. "We're going to be just fine."

That remains to be seen. Much of the credit for Clemson's run of six straight Atlantic Coast Conference titles from 2015-2020 and national championships after the 2016 and 2018



Clemson head coach Dabo Swinney has gone through big staff changes of late. JACOB KUPFERMAN/GETTY

seasons has been stability. Venables was hired from Oklahoma after the 2011 season and created one of the best defenses in the country for a decade. Elliot, a former Clemson player under then-receivers coach Swinney in 2003, rejoined the team as an offensive assistant 10 years ago and rose to coordinator after Chad Morris' departure in 2014. The Tigers offense averaged better than 500 yards a game in five of seven seasons under Elliott. Radakovich came to Clemson in 2012 and was a driving force behind football's \$55 million headquarters, which at the time of its opening in 2017 was considered state of the art in college football.

Swinney said he will miss working with them but understands their choices to go.

"Continuity is great," the coach said. "I love continuity, but new opportunity is great, too."

West Virginia RB Brown to skip bowl game: West Virginia running back Leddie Brown says he'll skip the Mountaineers' bowl game to focus on preparations for the NFL draft.

Brown announced his decision Thursday on Twitter. Brown surpassed 1,000 yards in back-to-back seasons. He was sixth in the Big 12 this season with 1,065 rushing

yards and 13 touchdowns. West Virginia (6-6) will meet Minnesota (8-4) in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl on Dec. 28 in Phoenix.

LSU QB Brennan exits transfer portal: Quarterback Myles Brennan will stay at LSU for the 2022 college football season after entering the transfer portal in November, he

announced via Twitter on Thursday. "There's no place like home. Let's ride tiger nation!" Brennan tweeted Thursday.

Brennan opened the 2020 season as LSU's starter, but a torn abdominal muscle ended his campaign three games in. He suffered a broken arm that required surgery before the 2021 season.

# Today's bowl games



**BAHAMAS BOWL: Middle Tennessee** State (6-6) vs. Toledo (7-5) Noon, ESPN

# WHAT'S AT STAKE

It's the opener of the 2021 college bowl season, with Middle Tennessee State and Toledo making their first trips to a bowl game since 2018.

# **KEY MATCHUP**

Redshirt freshman quarterback Dequan Finn and the Toledo offense against a Middle Tennessee State defense that leads the nation in turnovers (31), defensive touchdowns (6) and fumbles recovered (15). Finn is 125 of 209 passing, including 16 TDs and one interception. Toledo has the fewest turnovers (six) and interceptions thrown (two)



CURE BOWL: Northern Illinois (9-4) vs. Coastal Carolina (10-2) 6 p.m., ESPN2

# WHAT'S AT STAKE

Coastal Carolina is looking to match its school FBS record of 11 wins set last year (11-1). Northern Illinois is trying to win the MAC championship game and a bowl game in the same season for just the second time. The Huskies did it in 2011.

# **KEY MATCHUP**

Coastal Carolina quarterback Grayson McCall, the Sun Belt Conference Player of the Year in 2020 and 2021, against an NIU defense that has given up 32.7 points and 447.7 yards a game this season. McCall's efficiency rating of 207.95 is well ahead of the pace to break the FBS record of 203.06 that Alabama's Mac Jones set last year.

Associated Press

Mostly sunny and mild, some late day clouds arriving. West wind at 5 to 10

SUNRISE NOON



SUNRISE NOON freezing rain, and areas of rain, chilly.



**SATURDAY** 

 $Q_{\mu}$ 

NOON Early clouds. becoming partly sunny, windy.

**SUNDAY** 



**36** 

LOW

SUNRISE NOON Mostly sunny and chilly, some late day clouds arriving.

**MONDAY** 



LOW

Partly sunny and seasonable.

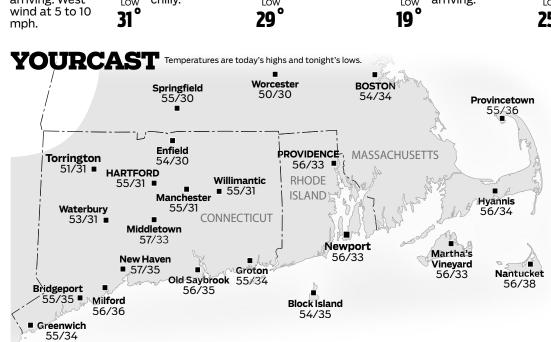


**TUESDAY** 



30-day Precipitation History In Inches

High





63 59 R

77 65 C

62 35 T

43 19 PC

82 62 PC

51 34 PC

71 57 C

79 66 C

64 47 PC

48 36

Salt Lake City 35 14 C

San Juan

WORLD

Amsterdam

Tucson

Athens

Beijing

Beirut

Berlin

Bermuda

Bangkok

Barbados

# OUTLOOK

Unseasonably mild temperatures on Thursday led to record high temperatures in the Greater Hartford area with a high temperature of 63 degrees at Bradley Airport and 61 degrees at Hartford's Brainard Airport. It was even milder in Danbury with a high of 64 degrees. Oxford and Meriden had highs of 61 degrees, while Willimantic reached 60 degrees. The unseasonably mild temperatures will continue Friday, but with a record high temperature at Bradley Airport of 63 degrees set in 2000, it will be difficult to top with forecast highs in the mid-50s.

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0.0

**Tides** 

N.L. State Pier

Saybrook Jetty

at Portland

**New Haven** 

Stamford

Weather

Wind

Seas

Madison

**Connecticut River** 

Boating L.I. Sound W

**MSunny** 

W, 10-20

2-3 ft.

-Gary Lessor

Low

8:02 a.m. 1:56 a.m.

8:22 p.m. 2:48 p.m.

9:13 a.m. 2:49 a.m. 9:33 p.m. 3:41 p.m.

11:56 a.m. 6:35 a.m.

9:29 a.m. 3:10 a.m.

9:59 p.m. 3:51 p.m.

9:49 a.m. 3:34 a.m.

10:19 p.m. 4:15 p.m.

9:53 a.m. 3:48 a.m.

10:23 p.m. 4:29 p.m.

L.I. Sound E

MSunny

W, 15-20

2-4 ft

p.m. 7:27 p.m.

Temp.

48

B. I. Sound

**MSunny** 

W. 15-20

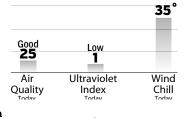
4-6 ft.

## **ALMANAC**

| <b>Precipitation In Inches</b> | To | tal | Norm | al |
|--------------------------------|----|-----|------|----|
| Yesterday (by 7 p.m.)          | 0. | 06  | 0.13 | 3  |
| Month to date                  | 1. | 19  | 2.21 |    |
| Total this year                | 53 | .18 | 45.1 | 8  |
| Snowfall In Inches             |    |     |      |    |
| Yesterday (by 4 p.m.)          | 0  | .0  | 0.3  |    |

Total this year 2.1 6.4 Precipitation, temperature at

## **Air Quality Forecast For Today**



| Today     | Tomorrow                            |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| 7:12 a.m. | 7:13 a.m.                           |
| 4:21 p.m. | 4:22 p.m.                           |
| 3:15 p.m. | 3:53 p.m.                           |
| 5:50 a.m. | 6:50 a.m.                           |
|           | 7:12 a.m.<br>4:21 p.m.<br>3:15 p.m. |

|    | Moon | Phase |      |
|----|------|-------|------|
|    |      |       |      |
| 11 | Lact | Now   | Circ |

Stockholm

Sydney

Tel Aviv

Toronto

Warsaw

Vancouver

Tokyo

Dec 26

Dec 18

Kingston

Lisbon

London

Madrid

Milan

Montreal

Moscow

New Delhi

Nassau

Paris

Prague

Rome

Seoul

Singapore

**Mexico City** 

45 31 PC

84 72 PC

65 49 PC

82 73 T

73 59 PC

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Johannesburg 66 52 T

С

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81 66

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41 32 PC

41 19 SH

32 28 SN

84 70 SH

70 48 PC

48 39 C

43 34 C

54 32 S

25 14 S

90 75

54 37

73 51

**Temperature** High Low 63R at 1:51 p.m 41 at 12:40 a.m Thursday Normal for date 40 25 63 in 2021 -4 in 1917 Record for date A year ago 25 17 99 Range this year

River Stage at Hartford: 6.04 feet at 6:30 p.m.

## **AROUND THE WORLD** Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above: NEW FNGL AND

Nashville

New York

Okla. City

Omaha

Orlando

Raleigh

St. Louis

San Antonio

San Diego

Pittsburgh

**New Orleans** 

61 37 PC

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|--------------|-----|----|-----|---------------|
| Bangor       | 44  | 19 | PC  | Baltimore     |
| Burlington   | 46  | 22 | PC  | Bismarck      |
| Caribou      | 39  | 15 | C   | Boise         |
| Concord      |     | 21 | -   | Buffalo       |
|              |     |    | -   | Charleston    |
| Montpelier   | 41  | 18 | PC  |               |
| Mt. Wash.    | 19  | 7  | PC: | Cincinnati    |
| Portland     |     | 25 |     | Cleveland     |
|              |     |    | -   | Indianapolis  |
| Woods Hole   | 54  | 31 | S   |               |
|              |     |    | _   | Jacksonville  |
| NATION       |     |    |     | Las Vegas     |
| Albany       | 40  | 27 | _   | Miami Beach   |
|              |     |    |     |               |

Albany Milwaukee 50 23 PC Atlantic City 61 35 PC KEY: S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms

**WEDNESDAY'S** 

**GIRLS BASKETBALL** 

**HOLY CROSS 55. MERCY 51** 

RESULTS

17-18-55

STAFFORD 2

E-0-1.

**BOYS HOCKEY** 

LATE HIGH SCHOOL

MERCY (0-1): Avery Kohs 2-0-4, Sophie Hedge 3-1-8, Kate Donlan 4-3-12,

Mercedes Artaiz 1-0-2. Totals 19-12-51.

Shania Howard 1-4-6, Mya Zaccagnini 7-6-21, Nyasia Smith 3-1-7, Ella Atkins

17 12 10 12 - 51 18 16 10 11 - 55

1 2 2 - 5

HOLY CROSS (2-0): Loren Tuck 0-0-0.

1-0-2, Cayla Howard 5-7-18. Totals

CONARD 5. ENFIELD/EAST GRANBY/

Goals: C-Brian Fehl (2), Jack Wenz.

Saves: C-Graydon Selstad, 33

GIRLS HOCKEY

E-Nick Morrell, 37. Rec.: C-1-0

Jack Hodgson, Nolan Trent E—Declan Higgins, Ethan Ambrosino.

Ava Giansiracusa 5-4-14, Melina

Ford 4-3-11, Jasmine Mendez 0-1-1

SIMSRIIDY 66 POCKY HILL 44 SIMSBURY (1-0): Anthony Simpson 4-3-11, Danny Sullivan 1-1-4, Aidan Keenan Willison 2-0-4, Chris Kokines 6-3-15, Alex Pepper 2-0-6, Nate Beizer

ROCKY HILL (0-1): Jayden Osei-Tutu 6-0-12, Danny Lin 1-0-3, Tyler Carlstrom 3-0-8, Grant Fishberg 1-0-3, Jonathan Ruiz 1-2-4, Jake Polites 1-0-3, Luke Castanho 2-0-5, Evan Sikorski 2-1-6.

CONARD 75. BERLIN 40

BERLIN (0-1): Ryan Stec 0-0-0, Mike Ciarcia 3-1-7, Jacob Smalley 0-0-0, Ryan Eberhardt 3-0-6, Toby Lavender 3-2-9, Zach Skinner 3-4-10, Kyle Pinto 3-0-6, Joe D'Amore 0-2-2. Totals 15-9-40. CONARD (1-0): Riley Fox 13-1-30, Jalen Hamblin 7-0-13, Ryan Bushnell 3-0-6, Declan McCann 0-0-0, Mike Weiss 1-2-4, Julius Smith 2-0-4, Matt Santoro 1-0-2, Ben Tartaglia 0-0-0, Jaydon Schuler 0-0-0, Jackson Morhardt 1-0-3, Amar Doster 0-0-0, Kyle Barnum 4-1-11,

Rasheen Smiley 1-0-2. Totals 33-4-75. HALL 70 BULKELEV 31

EC 

Goals: EC-Maddie Archambault. Meghan Croyle A-Nicole
Partridge, Shelby Little. Saves: EC-Maren Riley, 40 **A**—Sophia Ojala, 15. Rec.: **EC**—0-0-2 **A**—1-1-1.

EAST CATHOLIC CO-OP 2. AVON CO-OP

# CCC-Inter

WRESTLING

RHAM 42, SOUTHINGTON 39 **BERLIN 58. MANCHESTER 16** SIMSBURY 81, ENFIELD 0
MIDDLETOWN 42, WETHERSFIELD 15

## **HAND 48, LAW 28** THURSDAY'S HIGH **SCHOOL RESULTS**

# **BOYS BASKETBALL**

**NEWINGTON 76, HARTFORD PUBLIC 45** PLAINVILLE 49, BRISTOL EASTERN 30 BRISTOL EASTERN (0-1): Nasir Walk-

er-Jenkins 4-8-18, Elijah Borgelin 1-2-4, Lucas Sward 0-1-1, Jalen Stokes 1-0-2. Brenden Dauphinais 1-1-3. Isiah Lawrence-Bynum 1-0-2. Totals 8-12-30. PLAINVILLE (1-0): George James 0-1-1, Brady Wieczorek 2-4-8. Artem Mojica 2-0-4, Jon Marfia 0-1-1, Dylan Brewer 5-1-12, Jon Vasques 3-2-8, Cam Lamothe 7-1-15. Totals 19-10-49.

12 8 12 17 - 49 3 11 8 8 - 30 BE Note: Lamothe had a double-double with 13rebounds.

**MIDDLETOWN 71, MALONEY 38 RHAM 75, E.O. SMITH 46** 

E.O. SMITH (0-1): Brendan Raynor 2-0-4, Samuel DeJesus 1-0-3, Par Jankovics 2-1-5. Pete Elumogo 2-4-8. Leon Lin 6-5-19, Camden Shea 2-1-5, Noah Cardone 1-0-2, Jack Samville 0-0-0. Totals 16-11-46.

RHAM (1-0): Matt Fraleigh 3-1-7, Jimmy Hulland 5-2-15, Spencer Pilkington 2-3-8. Aiden Allen 0-4-4. Pat Kelly 4-0-8. Ryan Heneghan 5-0-11, Troy Miller 3-4-10, Ryan McLaughlin 1-0-2, Mike Poncini 4-2-10. Alex Demosthenous 0-0-0. Totals 27-16-75.

EOS 7 14 9 16 - 46 17 11 21 26 - 75

**CCC-West** NORTHWEST CATHOLIC 63, FARMINGTON 51

2-1-6, Miles Moody 1-0-3. Totals 25-10-

14 23 16 13 - 66

7 13 9 15 - 44

10 10 10 10 - 40 13 22 17 23 - 75

BLOOMFIELD 65, PLATT 62 EAST CATHOLIC 64, GLASTONBURY 42

EAST GRANBY 52, BOLTON 46 EAST GRANBY (1-0): Ben Lakomy 2-4-10, Patrick Lakomy 5-0-14, Evan Malinowski 1-2-4, Matt Fortier 2-0-4, Jonah Dunlop 3-1-7, Kenzie Vick 3-0-6, Ben Nardi 2-0-4, Brady Gill 1-0-3. Totals

BOLTON (0-1): Finn Alibrio 1-1-3. Mason Fox 0-0-0, Trevor Buchanan 10-3-27, Colby Marsh 1-2-4, Cal Bulley 5-0-12, Matt Godek 0-0-0. Totals 17-6-46.

15 8 13 16 - 52 EG 11 12 13 10 - 46 **SUFFIELD 48, ELLINGTON 45** 

**OLD SAYBROOK 71, HALE-RAY 60** 

PORTLAND 65, WESTBROOK 58 OLD LYME 81, COGINCHAUG 71

**CHENEY TECH 94, WILCOX TECH 49** 

CHESHIRE (0-1): Jack Markarian

7-1-15, Eric Levens 1-1-3, Matt Jeffrey 1-2-4, Drew Vagts 2-0-4, JD Shumilla 2-0-4, Tristan Washington 1-0-2. Totals 14-4-69 XAVIER (1-0): John Carrozzella 6-1-13, Colby Ciampi 0-1-1, Vik Vakati 2-0-5, Anthony Parker 9-4-27, Richie Rivers 2-4-8, Aidan Driscoll 5-0-11, Mark

Schoonmaker 1-2-4. Totals 25-12-69.

7 8 11 6 - 32 22 21 13 13 - 69

**GUILFORD 59, LYMAN HALL 46** 

BACON ACADEMY 72, WINDHAM 40 WINDHAM (0-1): Jack Jenkins 1-0-3, Zach Robinson-Smey 5-3-16, Tyler Walter 1-0-3, Malcom Hunter 4-0-12 Dian Ramos 1-0-3, Darien Jenkins 1-0-3.

Totals 13-3-40. BACON ACADEMY (1-0): Sam Blumberger 4-1-10, Ryan Claffey 1-4-6, Luke Grimord 5-0-12, Elijah Black 7-0-18, Quinn Johnson 4-2-10, Keegan Appleby 2-2-6, Kyle Brogdon 1-1-3, Jake Martino

3-1-7. Totals 27-11-72. 16 9 3 12 - 40

25 16 21 10 - 72

# GIRLS BASKETBALL

84 74 SH

63 39 PC

46 39 C

55 41 S 91 72 S

85 73 PC

32 19 S

63 55 SH

45 41 C

72 67 PC

Budapest

Cairo

Dubai

Dublin

Edinburgh

Hong Kong

Helsinki

Istanbul

Jerusalem

Cancun

Buenos Aires

SOMERS 47, EAST WINDSOR 24 SOMERS (1-1): Sydney Cassidy 2-0-4, Devon Dalessio 2-2-6, Eliana Wood 8-2-19, Taylor Illuzzi 3-0-8, Grace Majo

Watt 1-0-2. Totals 19-5-47. EAST WINDSOR (0-1): Samantha Ruggiero 2-0-4, Kristina Keyes 1-0-2, Bailey Winner 5-4-14, Katie Blume 2-0-4, Alexandra Witzke 0-0-0. Totals 10-4-24.

13 10 15 9 - 47 7 5 11 1 - 24 Note: Wood had a double-double with 10rebounds and Dalessio had 4assists.

**BOLTON 40, EAST GRANBY 29** BOLTON (1-1): Emma Diehl 6-0-12, Niya Islam 2-1-5, Isabel Kenney 4-0-10, Riley Graves 1-0-3, Julia Zimmerman 1-0-2, Makenna Graves 4-0-8, Totals 18-1-40,

East Granby (0-2): Sarah Springer 1-1-3, Ava Guyer 3-0-6, Megan Benner 2-0-4, Julia Walsh 5-0-11, Brooke DeJesus 2-0-5. Totals 13-1-29.

10 7 14 9 - 40 Note: Diehl had a double-double with

COGINCHAUG 50, OLD LYME 42 OLD LYME (0-1): Ava Roth 2-0-4, Kate Walsh 6-0-3, Ali Kyle 3-1-8, Alexis Fenton 2-1-6, Kelly Sheehan 2-1-5 Megan Loflin 2-2-6. Totals 17-5-42 COGINCHAUG (2-0): Allison Sambo 1-2-5, Serena Fournier 1-0-2, Katie Far 4-1-9, Alyssa Woodward 3-1-7, Mia

Poturnicki 4-0-8, Chloe Shafir 8-1-19. Totals 21-5-50.

10 9 14 9 - 42

14 14 11 11 - 50

**VALLEY REGIONAL 67, NORTH** 

BRANFORD 29 NORTH BRANFORD (0-1): Sernechia 1-0-2, Holzer 1-0-2, Lebeau 6-3-15, Criscuolo 1-0-3, Norman 1-0-2, Lucibello 1-0-2, Ricardo 1-0-3. Totals

VALLEY REGIONAL (1-0): Ava Cunningham 3-1-8, Abby Bradbury 7-2-18, Liz Allen 3-0-9, Olivia Cunningham 3-0-6

Regan Grow 1-0-2. Totals 29-6-67. 7 9 5 8 - 27 15 12 23 17 - 67

CROMWELL 50, HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH 27

HADDAM-KILLINGWORTH (0-1): Cheyenne LaTouche 1-0-2, Ella Commerford 1-0-3, Julia Favalora 1-0-2, Kayleigh Bodak 3-4-10, Carly Rettberg 5-0-10. Totals 11-4-27. CROMWELL (2-0): Grace Mikan 2-0-4,

Cameryn Hickey 0-1-1, Brynn Kovacs 2-4-8, Jessica Grodzicki 4-0-10, Nevaeh Clark 7-0-15, Adela Cecunjanin 5-2-12. Totals 20-7-50 HK

6 9 2 10 - 27 6 13 18 13 - 50 **EAST HAMPTON 36, MORGAN 34** 

AEROSPACE 49, CAPITAL PREP 48 (OT) CAPITAL PREP (0-1): Sienna Cook 6-4-16, Savannah Fulton 0-1-1, Saeia Wallford 11-4-27, Ashlyn Gordon 2-0-4 Totals 19-9-48. AEROSPACE (2-0): Ariana Murray 1-0-2,

Julia McLean 6-0-12, Faith Mitchell 1-4-6, Ashanti McLean 7-5-20, Tara Martindale 3-3-9. Totals 18-12-49.

11 8 11 12 6 - 48 11 4 11 16 7 - 49 **WEAVER 47, ACHIEVEMENT FIRST 17** 

**AMITY 55, LYMAN HALL 37 BACON ACADEMY 73, WATERFORD 58** BACON ACADEMY (2-0): Ashley Lizotte 1-2-4, Valerie Luizzi 9-7-31, Marissa Nudd 10-9-29, Cara Shea 1-1-3, Emma Mancuso 3-0-6, Totals 24-19-73

WATERFORD (0-2): Mia Chiappone

2-1-6, Izzi Fraser 1-0-2, Milly Walker 11-10-33. Julia Knowles 2-0-4, Sophia Hathaway 5-2-13. Totals: 21-13-58.

Rio de Janeiro 82 72 R

21 22 13 17 - 73 13 16 14 15 - 58 Note: Luizzi hit 63-pointers (all in half) to tie Bacon's program record. Her 31points were a career high

and she added 8steals. Budd's 29points

were also a career high. SMSA 40, UNIVERSITY 10 UNIVERSITY (0-2): Nyrra Hutchinson 2-0-4, Ani McRavin 1-0-2, Tierah Childs 2-0-4. Totals 5-0-10. SMSA (1-1): Mia Candelario 2-0-4.

Aniya Encarnacion 3-0-6, Nairoby Hiraldo 1-0-2, Nozimabonu Marifinova 0-1-1, Alyssa Livingston 1-0-2, Aiyana Brown 6-1-13. Praise Ikeh 3-1-8. Valvzah Martinez 2-0-4. Totals 18-3-40.

4 2 4 0 - 10 18 7 6 9 - 40 **PRINCE TECH 37, CLASSICAL 31** 

**BOYS HOCKEY** CCC-North

FRIDAY'S HIGH

**SOUTH WINDSOR 4, WETHERSFIELD** 

**SCHOOL SCHEDULE** ALL GAMES AT 6:45 P.M. UNLESS **BOYS BASKETBALL** 

CCC-Inter: New Britain at Manchester NCCC: Granby at Rockville CRAL: University at Civic Leadership,

Others: Parish Hill at Windham Tech, 5 p.m.; Bolton at Aerospace, 7p.m.

RLS BASKETBALL

CCC-West: Northwest Catholic at CCC-Inter: Manchester at Middletown. 5:15p.m.; Tolland at Hartford Public,

5:30p.m.; Enfield at Lewis Mills, 6p.m.: South Windsor at Bristol Central, 6p.m.; Newington at E.O. Smith; East Hartford at Berlin; Southington at New Britain; Glastonbury at East Catholic; Farmington at Plainville; Rocky Hill at Maloney; Bristol Eastern at Windsor NCCC: Suffield at Ellington CTC: Norwich Tech at Goodwin Tech, 4 p.m.; Grasso Tech at Prince Tech, 4:30

p.m.; Ellis Tech at Vinal Tech, 5:30p.m.; Windham Tech at Cheney Tech, 5:30 p.m.; Wilcox Tech at Bullard-Havens, CRAL: MLC at HMTCA, 5:15p.m. SCC: Mercy at Law, 7p.m.; Career at

Cheshire, 7p.m.; Wilbur Cross at Sheehan, 7p.m.; Hillhouse at Hand, 7p.m. NVL: St. Paul at Kennedy, 6:30p.m. Others: Avon at Granby, 5:45p.m.; East Windsor at Innovation, 6:15p.m. Thomaston at Windsor Locks; RHAM at Coventry; Canton at Simsbury, 7:15p.m.

Others: Branford at Farmington Valley,

**BOYS HOCKEY** 

TRACK AND FIELD

**Others:** Hillhouse Invitational, Day One (Floyd Little AC, New Haven), 4p.m. **WEDNESDAY'S LATE COLLEGE RESULT** 

MEN'S BASKETBALL **FAIRFIELD 72, FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON 54** FRIDAY'S COLLEGE **SCHEDULE** 

**VOMEN'S BASKETBALL** Hartford at Central, 7p.m.

**SATURDAY'S** COLLEGE **SCHEDULE** 

Jan 9

37 31 PC

77 66 PC

63 51 SH

59 37 SH

43 28 S

41 36 SH

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CONNECTICUT

**Weather Center** 

WESTERN

UNIVERSITY

Providence at UConn (XL), 5p.m.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** Ouinnipiac at Rider, 2p.m. acred Heart at La Salle, 2p.m. Marist at Fairfield, 2p.m.

**SUNDAY'S COLLEGE SCHEDULE** 

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Sacred Heart at UMass Lowell, 1p.m.

Fairfield at UMass, 1p.m

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Baskethall HoF Women's Showcase

(Mohegan Sun) Baylor vs. Michigan, 1p.m.

Louisville vs. UConn, 3:30p.m. AHL **Standings** GP W LOTLSOLPTS PCT

23 .523 Colorado Tucson 20 9 9 2 0 20 .500 1 0 1 3 19 .475 16 .444 San Diego 20 9 10 Bakersfield 18 20 8 11 1 0 San Jose 17 .425 THURSDAY'S

1

2

24 .600

21 .525

RESULT CHICAGO 4, MANITOBA 3 FRIDAY'S **SCHEDULE** 

Henderson

Abhotsford

Lehigh Valley at Hartford, 7p.m. Belleville at Syracuse, 7p.m. Utica at Cleveland, 7p.m. Providence at Laval, 7p.m. Hershey at Springfield, 7p.m. Chicago at Milwaukee, 8p.m. Rockford at Texas, 8p.m. Manitoba at Iowa, 8p.m. San Jose at Ontario, 10p.m. Bakersfield at San Diego, 10p.m. Colorado at Stockton, 10p.m.

# **COLLEGE BASKETBALL** Big East basketball standings

MEN'S CONF CPCT OVR PCT 0-0.00010-1.909 Seton Hall 0-0.0009-1.900 Xavier 0-0.0009-1.900 DePaul UConn 0-0.0009-2.818 Creighton St. John's 0-0.0008-2.800

Georgetown 0-0.0005-4.556

Marguette

Butle

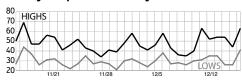
0-0.0008-2.800

0-0.0008-3.727

0-0.0007-3.700

Last **Heating Degree Days** Season Normal Season 1381 For July 1 - Dec 16 1653 1451

**30-day Temperature History** 



**Atmosphere** High Barometer 30.25 at 12 a.m. 29.87 at 5 p.m. 49° at 6 a.m. Dew point 40° at 3 p.m.

## FRIDAY'S **SCHEDULE** Villanova at Creighton, 8p.m.

WOMEN'S CONF CPCT OVR PCT 2-0 1.000 9-2 .818 2-0 1,000 6-2,750 Marquette 2-0 1.000 6-2 .750

1-0 1.000 6-2 .750 UConn St. John's 1-0 1.000 5-5.500 Georgetown 1-1.500 6-4.600 Providence 1-1.500 6-5.545 Villanova 0-2.000 5-5.500 Seton Hall Vavier 0-2 .000 4-5 .444 Vavier 0-2 .000 4-6 .400 0-2.000 0-10.000

THURSDAY'S RESULTS SOUTH DAKOTA AT CREIGHTON, LATE

NORTHERN ILLINOIS AT DEPAUL. LATE **SUNDAY'S** 

**SCHEDULE** Marquette at Seton Hall, noon DePaul at St. John's, 1p.m. Creighton at Providence, 1p.m. Southeast Missouri at Xavier, 2p.m.

Baskethall HoF Women's Showcase (Uncasville) UConn vs. Louisville, 3:30p.m. **HOCKEY EAST** 

Standings MEN'S OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS UMass Lowell 16 10-3-3 11 8-2-1 25 UMass 159-4-2117-2-224 Northeastern 18 13-4-1 11 7-3-1 23 21 14-7-0 11 6-5-0 19 Boston College 168-5-3105-3-219 Boston University 18 6-9-3 13 5-5-3 17

Merrimack 156-9-0103-7-012 New Hampshire 177-9-1113-7-1 9 Vermont Maine 172-11-4111-8-27

**FRIDAY'S** 

Holy Cross

Friday, Dec. 31schedule

Vermont at Providence, 1p.m.

**SCHEDULE** Dartmouth at Merrimack, 7p.m. WOMEN'S OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS 19 16-2-1 14 11-2-1 35 Boston University 189-6-3 15 8-4-3 27 20 14-4-2 13 8-3-2 25 Boston College 18 10-8-0 13 8-5-0 21 Vermont 189-7-2116-4-119 Providence 177-5-5104-4-216 196-12-1 124-7-1 16 New Hampshire 19 6-11-2 13 4-8-1 15 205-14-1 15 4-10-1 15 17 3-14-0 12 1-11-0 3 Merrimack

# ECAC HOCKEY Standings OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS

Team 119-1-186-1-118 1814-1-365-0-117 Cornell Quinnipiac Harvard 116-4-185-2-117 Clarkson 199-6-484-2-216 198-9-284-4-012 Rensselaer St. Lawrence 154-7-483-3-212 123-9-093-6-010 Colgate 188-10-083-5-09 Union 175-9-383-4-1 8 Princeton 133-9-162-4-0 7 Dartmouth Yale 103-7-082-6-0 5

## **FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE** Dartmouth at Merrimack, 7p.m.

WOMEN'S OGP OVR CGP CONF CPTS Quinnipiac 1815-1-287-1-021 129-3-096-3-019 20 15-2-3 8 6-1-1 18.5 14 6-5-3 8 5-2-1 16.5 Clarkson Princeton Yale 14 10-3-1 8 5-2-1 16.5 Colgate 19 14-4-1 85-2-1 14.5 St. Lawrence 20 7-8-5 83-3-2 12 196-13-0103-7-011 Rensselaer 114-6-183-4-110.5 157-8-092-7-0 6 Cornell Dartmouth

151-12-281-6-14.5

214-16-1101-9-03

Brown